

*Wayne Green's
1996
Essays*

*A reprint of 100 of my non-ham
oriented editorial essays from
73 Amateur Radio Today*

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\$10

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Foreword

Here are some of my editorials from the 1996 issues of 73. They're in no particular order. They are not, generally, amateur radio oriented, so they should appeal to just about anyone who is interested in thinking. Since these are reprinted from a dozen back issues there are occasional areas of repetition which I'm too lazy to edit out.

My goal in writing these editorials is twofold. It's also the result of a compulsion on my part to share anything I particularly enjoy with as many others as I can. Heck, that's what got me into writing and publishing in the first place.

Back in 1949 I got all involved with amateur radio Teletype and I had so much fun that I wanted to tell as many other hams as I could about it so they, too, could have fun. So I started the *Amateur Radio Teletype Bulletin* in 1951. That led to a column in *CQ* magazine—which led to me becoming the editor of *CQ*—which led to me starting 73 magazine a few months after *CQ* fired me.

Okay, my two goals, other than sharing the fun and excitement I've enjoyed from discovering new ideas. One is to give my ham readers something to talk about on the air other than a recitation of their ham equipment models. Two, is to try and get as many readers as possible to actually think.

So I keep looking for things which I think will interest me. I read books and talk to experts, and then, when I find something unusual that everyone really ought to know about, I get busy with my word processor and write an editorial. I've been helped enormously in this by my more alert readers, who keep their eyes (and minds) open for books or clippings from newspapers or magazines they think will interest me.

The discouraging part of my research is that the more I've looked into things, the more I've found that we're being lied to by our government, with the lies supported by our school system and the media. Yes, I know, my crying wolf so often makes me look like a conspiracy kook. Yet, I don't report on what I've discovered without backing it up with references from reliable sources.

On the plus side you'll see that when I tell how bad some things have gotten, that I also propose a practical solution which could solve the mess we've let build up through our inattention.

The War We Lost—and Lost Big

Short quiz: What is the most expensive war in American history? It is a war that cost more than WWII, Korea, and Vietnam combined? Hint—it's one we lost. One we lost in a big way. One that has brought about catastrophic changes in our country.

It's President Johnson's (Lyndon) War on Poverty. Welfare. Welfare mothers. Hey, it's *your* money your politicians are shoveling out. Over \$5 trillion so far, and with no end in sight.

When the government pays women welfare benefits equivalent to \$12 an hour,

two and a half times the minimum wage, in New York and Washington, not to work, what do you think this does to wages in those areas? To be "entitled" to this largess at our expense the women have to have children—the more the better—no job, and no husband that's working.

In 39 states welfare benefits are equivalent to about \$16,600 a year. In eight it's over \$20,000.

Later I'll tell you about a woman with two children who is on welfare in my small New Hampshire town. Her food and apartment are provided, plus schooling for one child, complete with a paid driver to ferry the child to school and back every day. The woman is bitterly complaining that her welfare-provided cable TV only gives her two paid channels. Oh yes, her husband is working, but they are "separated." A recent exposé on welfare showed a couple of women in Laconia (NH) sitting in their apartments getting fat on this same system. Work? And lose all those benefits? You've got to be kidding!

So we complain about the single mothers. We complain about the loss of family values that's turning out one generation after another of uneducated welfare mothers and resulting criminal children with no incentive or skills to work. Compassion gone berserk, and to hell with the survival of the fittest concept. We're making sure that the least fit survive and proliferate, dragging us all down.

What can you do about this mess you've meekly let fester? Two things. First, we've got to stop Congress from making things worse. Second, we've got to make sure Congress strikes out all of the laws they've made that are screwing us up. Get the feds out of the mercy business, which is just another name for socialism. My bumper-sticker approach to this is to start with Green's NRA: Never Re-elect Anyone! Get those bribed (via lobbyists) scoundrels out of Washington. Let's build a whole new breed of one-term politicians.

But most important is to take a few days off from watching mind-numbing TV and educate yourself. There are some damned good books which will help you understand what's gone wrong with our school system (which is a disaster), with the war on poverty (which we lost), the war on drugs (which we've also lost), our so-called health-care system (another enormously overpriced disaster), our "correctional institutions" (which exacerbate, not correct) and so on. Hey, we have the potential for having a pretty good country, but it's going to take a lot of work by a lot of people to undo Congressional mischief and make it happen.

The multi-level marketing (chain-letter) approach will work for us. First you educate yourself. Then you get two or three other people started being educated. And they do the same for two or three more. Then form a local action group. The next thing you know, we'll have a movement.

I'd like to see local political action clubs (PACs) get going. Members would be encouraged to read a book and report on it at the next meeting. There are an awful lot of books out there, but only a small percentage of them are both interesting and educational. By distributing the work of separating the wheat from the chaff, a group can easily do something that no one person could possibly accomplish.

The next thing you know some entrepreneur will start collecting the book reports and submit them to me for publication. And I'll pay for 'em. The resulting

sale of the better books will help discourage publishers from unloading crap on us, and will encourage the writing of even better books.

My *\$5 Secret Guide to Wisdom* is a review of "books you're crazy if you don't read," and covers a wide variety of topics. Reading these books will beat the heck out of a college education, be thousands of dollars cheaper, and take several years less time. Maybe you can get some high school kids interested in learning to read.

Perhaps I've let my idealism run away with me in even suggesting that we try to run our country on reason instead of fanaticism. Maybe screaming protestors and terrorism are the rule of the day and reason passé.

Anyway, if you feel that people who prefer not to work are worth \$335 billion of your money being taken out of your paycheck every year, then go back and watch that ball game on TV. As long as you're satisfied that you're getting your money's worth it's no problem. If you'd get Congress to stop wasting your money we could go back to where a one paycheck family could live comfortably and a mother could have the time to spend with her children.

One reader suggested a way to solve the deficit problem would be to fire the top three layers of management of all federal bureaus on the basis that it's unlikely that anyone lower down would notice much difference. Oh, the bureau's jet planes would get less use. But why not fire 'em down five levels and start reducing the deficit instead of just stopping its growth?

Oh yes, one more innovation. Since many of our more serious social problems have been caused by federal judges running amok, bypassing the legislative system, how about putting term limits on those rascals too? It would also be nice if we could somehow encourage the Supremes to stop trashing the Constitution. There is no place in the Constitution which supports the social programs Congress has enacted and the Supremes have endorsed.

Selenium

As I read the news magazines I kept seeing obits for local well-known people who have died of a heart attack or stroke. Veterinarians solved that problem for animals decades ago. Farm animals don't die of heart attacks or strokes. Farmers add pellets with the minerals which are almost universally missing from today's crops to their animal's feed. But don't ask your doctor about preventative medicine, vitamins or minerals; they're not his field. If doctors were taught anything about health maintenance instead of just about sickness repairs they wouldn't be dying younger than the rest of us on the average.

They're only taught how to treat symptoms.

Cows, pigs and horses don't die of heart attacks or Alzheimer's because farmers give them the minerals they need with their feed. Well, that's something for you to think about as the ambulance rushes you to the emergency ward. That old ounce of prevention. Or more likely, 50 mg of selenium or some other missing mineral that's critically important to your body's function.

No, I'm no MD, nor even a DVM, so I don't ask that you believe me. But I recommend you do your homework the way I have. I realize that you may not have

much time to read, what with your spending a little time at work, and then watching ball games, sitcoms, soaps, and talk shows, making you a living example of the boiled frog syndrome. That's where, if you drop a frog into boiling water, he'll jump right out. But if you put him in warm water with a fire under it he'll enjoy the warmth until he's boiled.

And that's the way it is with sugar, white bread, smoking, using drugs, and eating food that lacks the basic minerals and vitamins our bodies developed a dependency on over millennia of design. Our bodies were designed to work on raw wild foods. They were never designed to cope with coffee and doughnuts or Big Macs, fries, and a malt. So, either we have to figure some way to get our bodies the materials they need or settle for half a life. The expression, "You are what you eat," is right.

For instance, in one of the ham radio club newsletters there was a very nice obit about Travis Baird W9VQD. Travis stroked out (a mineral lack). He was into music, opera, speed skating, photography, sailing, football, computers, the violin, amateur television, and so on. Now he's gone. Diet.

Forty-one of the books in my review of "books you're crazy if you don't read" are health oriented. The most important is *Maximize Immunity* by Dr. Bruno Comby. I got a fax from him this morning saying he's planning on moving to the US to establish a healthy living community. If you read *The Secrets of the Soil*, another of my recommended books, you'll find out how to grow food that has the missing minerals.

Ever since the invention of the flush toilet we've been getting rid of the minerals in our crops instead of refertilizing our fields with them, as people did up until this century. Now we use chemicals as fertilizer, and we're suffering the consequences.

Hmm, I wonder how many of you grew up on a farm with a back house and had to shovel out the privy every spring? My family's farm in Bethlehem NH had no running water and no electricity, so I know what it is to take a flashlight out to the privy in back of the barn at night in the rain. And there was no heat until the first one up (me) started the fire in the kitchen stove with newspaper, kindling, and some kerosine to get the wood going fast. And another fire in the living room fireplace when it was really cold. While the stove was warming up I'd refill the kerosine lamps. The stove had a water tank at one end, so once the water was warm enough I'd scoop some out into a 5-gallon watering can. Then, in the summer kitchen, out by the woodpile, I'd hoist the can over my head with a pulley and take a fast shower. That part of the house was unheated by the stove, so 5 gallons of water was plenty.

Few farms today have a privy, so farmers today are flushing what few minerals they're getting in their food into their septic system, not into a privy and then the compost heap. You either get your missing trace minerals from a health store or you make the doctors even wealthier as you have your heart attack or stroke. Your choice.

You can learn exactly what trace minerals your body needs by reading a most entertaining book by Dr. Joel Wallach. It's *Rare Earths—Forbidden Cures*. 500

large pages, \$20 from Wellness Lifestyle, Box 1222, Bonita CA 91908 - 800-755-4656. Yes, it's reviewed in my *Secret Guide to Wisdom*. .

Your Government At Work

Last year one of those TV shows devoted to the weird did a show interviewing farmers and their children who were involved with that supposed 1947 UFO crash in New Mexico. They sure made a good case for the reality of a crashed UFO and its dead occupants being covered up by the government. It certainly was enough to cause any intelligent person to shake off the bindings of "conventional wisdom" and start looking for more information. Or should that be called "conventional ignorance?"

Of course, having always been interested in the UFO phenomenon, I've done a lot of homework. I've read dozens of books over the last 50 years or so, some very thoroughly researched, others a waste of time. I think I mentioned that back in 1963 Jay Stanton (darn, I forget his call!), a writer and ham friend who was a total UFO skeptic, set off to expose the whole UFO business as bunk. About two years later, no longer a skeptic, his book telling about his conversion was published. He cited some most convincing cases.

I've read enough books, talked with enough people who have had personal experiences, and had enough experiences of my own to know that something real is happening. I also know from several incidents that our beloved government is up to here in a cover-up. Yeah, I know, the old government cover-up baloney.

Well, if I hadn't had a firsthand inside experience with the cover-up in the Amelia Earhart case, which is still being covered up over 60 years later, I might be less easily convinced.

Then, a few days ago, there was another TV weirdo show on the New Mexico UFO crash. This program interviewed the children of some of the Air Force people who were involved. They, like the farmers, had seen the ETs. And their parents, like the farmers, had been threatened by government agents to keep quiet. Or else. Again, their story was most compelling.

But a federal agency wouldn't threaten private citizens, would they? Well, they did me. Agents from one federal agency got me into a room and explained that if I ever published anything about that agency again they would have me put in prison and make sure that I'd never get out alive. No, I have never written about them again. And I won't, except in my memoirs, where I will have a whole lot of interesting things to write about. But unless you start paying attention to my advice on nutrition, drinking more water and avoiding poisons, the chances are I'm going to outlive you.

Green's Rocker

A book came a couple days ago from a reader who wanted to swap it for copies of some of my books. This one sure got my attention. I was busy trying to find out more about dowsing from a couple of new books I'd just bought, but this

one made me put everything else down.

My first reaction was probably what yours will be. It's *NASA Mooned America!*, by René, 196p, 1994. The ridiculous claim is that the Apollo missions to the Moon never actually happened. Oh, Lordy, give me a break! What is this, some Flat Earth Society-type crappola? But, not being completely controlled by what I have been conditioned to believe, I read on. René has done a masterful job of destroying what little faith I had left in NASA. He shows where many of their photographs of the Moon missions are clearly bogus; he proves beyond a reasonable doubt that nobody can survive in space beyond the protection of the Van Allen Belt; and so on. By the time he's through, there's just no doubt that our government has produced a \$40 billion space opera for us.

Yes, of course, Wayne has gone off his rocker with this one. Sure. Okay, smarty, what's the temperature in space? Hot? Cold? We all know it's awfully cold, right? The fact is, when the sun is shining on anything it gets blistering hot. The surface of the Moon is 243°F in the sun and -279°F for the two weeks of night. Our astronauts were just there in the daylight, so they were dealing with an environment that was around 250°, with nowhere near enough power to run the cooling system needed to deal with that. René goes into every aspect of the inability of any living thing to survive the solar flares that occurred during the missions with the little shielding used, the temperatures involved in space and on the Moon, the footprints showing in so many photos, etc. So what's wrong with footprints? Hey, there's no moisture on the Moon. It's desert dry, and double-boiling hot. When you walk in dry sand you leave a slight dent, but no footprint. You don't get any footprints until you walk on wet sand.

There are endless holes in the NASA production. Wait'll you see the not quite hidden power cords in some photos supposedly taken on the Moon. Then there's one photo in the book of Aldrin and Armstrong saluting the flag, where at the time they claim the photo was taken the sun was at about 10°, but Aldrin's photo was taken when the sun was at 26.4° and Armstrong's was taken with the sun at 34.9°, if one goes by the shadows they cast. Worse, the shadows are in two different directions, and the flag casts no shadow at all. The angles of the sun were calculated by the lengths of the shadows compared to the height of the men. The sun moves about 10° a day, so Aldrin's photo would have had to be taken two days after they claimed, and Armstrong's a day later, all followed by some computer trickery to combine them.

Or was all of this done in a secret Nevada CIA base?

René provides a book-full of proof that the whole Moon deal was a fake put together by NASA and the CIA. It's a very well written and researched book. It reduces our Right Stuff heroes to mere actors who have gone along with a Hollywood-type production. And those who caused any problems were killed! Did the "accidents" which killed eleven astronauts in 1967 raise any questions in your mind?

René is understandably in hiding, so I've arranged to make his book available for \$25 (+\$3 s/h). We'll see if anything happens to me.

Illusions

It's difficult for me to get used to the real world. It sure isn't anything like I was taught in school, or my parents led me to believe. The more I learn, the less I have to believe in. Politics is crooked clear through, with money, via lobbies, firmly in control. The medical industry is just as crooked, protecting its \$1.5 trillion business with the cooperation of the government. Our legal system is seriously corrupt, as is our educational industry, again with the complicity of the government. Our academic system is corrupt, again in bed with our government. Should I mention our tobacco industry? And liquor industry? Our public water supplies, packed with chlorine and fluorides? Oh yes, our dental industry with amalgams and root canals. Our food industry providing us with hormones, pesticides, antibiotics, and de-mineralized produce. Our sugar industry giving us rotting teeth, birth defects and many chronic illnesses.

So I suppose I am pretty dumb, or at least naïve, to be surprised to read an exposé showing NASA to be siphoning off billions to produce blockbuster entertainment epics, hand in hand with the CIA.

The worst part is that, even with our government and, as far as I know, every major industry, thoroughly corrupt, we seem to have the best country in the world. Maybe I should just shut up and go along to get along. Hey, if I suddenly "die" of a heart attack, I want you to know that my heart is in fine shape and that the CIA seems to be leaving a trail of heart attack victims who have caused trouble. Shades of the SS and KGB! The Apollo mission data is still highly classified, so my reporting on the book may be endangering our country.

There are three more well-documented books exposing the Moon landing hoax, in case you don't want to believe René.

Exit Line

When this book arrived and I saw that it was an exposé of NASA, claiming that the Moon flights were all faked, I expected to start reading the usual unsupported baloney like that which supports just about every claim I've read for zero-point energy, N-machines, and other mysterious new power sources. I was a 100% total believer in space flight. Oh, I didn't think the potential benefits of visiting Mars were worth the investment, considering the federal deficit, so I was glad to see that program canceled last year. Ditto the super collider.

But I've been a space fan since early childhood. I got hooked early by a cartoon strip around 1929 called "Jack Swift." No relation to Tom Swift, though later in my childhood I enjoyed those books. Buck Rogers was there, but he didn't hold a candle to Jack Swift. Nor did Flash Gordon. Heck, the early Buck Rogers cartoons still had people using airplanes in the 25th century. Tsk.

So the whole idea that the Apollo flights had been no more real than the recent award-winning Apollo-13 movie was totally preposterous. But once I started reading I couldn't stop. The evidence piled up, fact after fact. As far as I know, no one

who has read the book remains unconvinced that the world has sucked in on one of the biggest snow jobs in history. If you read the book and aren't amazed at the enormousness of the deceit, and the success NASA and the CIA have had in keeping it secret, I sure want to hear from you.

Well, they did as good a job with secrecy on the Manhattan Project back 50-some years ago, so it's not without precedent.

And why didn't Russia blow the whistle, when they had to know early on that man would never survive in space beyond the Van Allen Belt without massive shielding against the intense radiation from solar flares? Read the book on our cost (billions) to bribe them.

Say, I wonder what else our beloved gov't has been doing that we haven't heard about? Let me know, okay?

Instinct?

Now what in heck is instinct?

European cuckoos, which are raised by birds of other species, migrate without guidance to precisely the spot in Africa where their parents migrated before them. Fish return to the streams where they were born to spawn. Turtles find the exact same beaches where they were born. Monarch butterflies make one migration, from the Great Lakes region to specific butterfly trees in Mexico. The examples that "science" explains as instinct are endless. So, what's instinct?

What science can't explain it gives a name to and ignores or denies.

How do lost animals find their owners in places they've never been before? When a rat learns to navigate a maze, how can future unrelated generations be born with the knack for similar mazes? Is there a whole lot more to the adaption of species than random Darwinian survival of the fittest?

If you decide to do some research along these lines you'll find organized science fighting you every inch of the way with ridicule, a refusal to publish your papers, and efforts to prevent any funding. Is it any wonder that our progress in non-accepted scientific fields has been so slow?

In the US I've seen the efforts of the Department of Energy scientists to make absolutely sure that if a new cold fusion industry develops, it will be in Japan, not here in America.

According to *The Skeptical Inquirer*, telepathy doesn't exist, yet almost every day I experience it with Sherry. She'll be driving along, with me in the back seat working, and I'll suddenly look up and remark on a sign or something unusual. Every time, it's something she's particularly noted and wanted to tell me about, but didn't want to interrupt my work.

I've reviewed books for you on how to communicate with plants and animals. Science is doing well with microcircuit development, but sure has a long way to go, with other scientists vigorously resisting, toward understanding psi, instinct, and other such phenomenon it doesn't understand and thus ignores or denies.

The comforting thought is that virtually every scientific belief (law) is eventually shown to be either untrue, or just partly true.

We do need to do a lot more research on human instincts. Obviously we have them, though they are not programmed in as powerfully as those of many animals, birds, reptiles and insects, but it would be nice to find out just what we're up against in hard-wired programming.

Skeptic

Now and then a book comes along that gets me all excited. Wow! stuff. Like the René book exposing the whole Moon landing program as no more real than the "Apollo-13" movie. Which apparently was a documentary-type movie of a completely fictional event.

As soon as I read *NASA Mooned America* I called René and asked what else he had. A few days later *The Last Skeptic of Science* arrived. It's another page-turner I couldn't put down. It's self-published, 179p, 1995, \$25. As soon as I read it I faxed René to send me some copies to make available to my readers.

Why did I get so excited? Well, René (nom de plume) fearlessly tackles Newton, Einstein, Hawking, Hubble, et al...and wins. Do you really, honestly believe that the Moon causes our tides? Or that there really have been ice ages? Or that there is a gravity force? Or that there ever was a Big Bang? Or black holes? An expanding universe? Or hundreds of fundamental particles? Or that the earth's magnetic field has reversed itself? Or that we have the field because the earth is a big magnet? Or that volcanos are caused by leaks from the earth's molten interior? Or that the transmutation of elements is either impossible or difficult? That the speed of light is constant? That objects of different weights drop at the same acceleration in a vacuum? Or that the ice cap over Antarctica is millions of years old?

René does a masterful job of tackling things scientists (he calls them science philosophers) and most of the rest of us have been taught to accept as facts and laws, reducing them to exploded theories. If you are a heavy believer in the authority of the scientific establishment this is a book you'd better not read, just as his Moon book is best not read by people who are true believers in the honesty of our government.

Both the NASA exposé and the *Skeptic* book are \$25 (plus \$3 s/h) from Wayne Green, Box 416, Hancock NH 03449. I'll be surprised if you don't add both of these to your list of the most exciting books you've ever read.

René's ideas tie in with what I've learned recently from other books I've reviewed in my *Secret Guide to Wisdom*, such as *The Big Bang Never Happened* by Eric Lerner, *Footprints of the Gods*, by Graham Hancock, and so on.

Maybe you've watched some of the recent TV exposés of the way the pharmaceutical companies, in conjunction with the AMA, FDA, NIH, WHO, and so on, have covered up inexpensive and effective cures for ulcers and epilepsy. If so, you can understand why I'm reading every book I can find on alternatives to the current sickness repair system, and perhaps why I have less and less faith in authority figures. And that particularly holds for Ph.Ds and our government officials. I suppose I should have been warned, since Ph.D. stands for a doctor of philosophy, not science.

Little that I was taught about science in high school and college has stood the test of time. I was taught that our solar system got started when another sun passed close to ours and sucked off the stuff making the planets, and thus that planets must be very rare. And my college physics classes never once mentioned quantum mechanics.

Say, I hope you are enjoying being with me on my adventure into learning about our universe, health, and so on. I've always found it exciting to learn new things, and I have this drive to share the things I enjoy with as many others as I can. Amateur radio has provided me with endless adventures as I've learned about one new mode after another.

Epileptic Fits

Thank heavens for the fast-forward on my VCR remote! Well, with exposé TV programs on almost every night, there's always the chance that if I don't record them I'll miss finding out about another military-industrial complex scam, another congressional, medical, food stamp, welfare, and so on scam. The fast-forward button helps me avoid the commercials and luxuriating in the misfortune of others, which the networks squeeze for every tear drop on these shows.

Did you catch the "Dateline" program with the exposé on the medical scandal over epilepsy? Any time you think that old Uncle Wayne is exaggerating about the mendacity of our so-called health care servers, who fight every low cost cure for a serious illness ferociously, all you have to do is a little reading. Like the *Rack-teering In Medicine* book, which I recommended moons ago. Yes, it's reviewed in my *Secret Guide to Wisdom*.

The program explained that around 70 years ago a very successful cure was found for epilepsy. But since it did not call for the use of any pharmaceuticals, the medical industry buried it. Except for one woman, who fought the medical bureaucracy for years, this cure would have been lost. Now kids with epilepsy can get this dietary treatment at Johns Hopkins, but only if they learn about it. Unfortunately the AMA-FDA-NIH-WHO combo has done a magnificent job of keeping most doctors unaware of this simple cure.

Maybe you saw the program about the Australian doctor who discovered an inexpensive quick cure for ulcers. He was fought by the medical establishment for years before he finally won. I think it was the article about him in *The New Yorker* which finally blew off the lid. The medical journals, which play only the pharmaceutical company tunes, refused to publish his papers, and they're still fighting him. Most doctors are still unaware of the simple cure and are continuing to consider ulcer patients as a sort of medical annuity.

Let's Play Doctor

There's a new book (well, new to me) that is now reviewed in my *Secret Guide to Wisdom*. This is *Let's Play Doctor*, by Dr. Joel Wallach. He's the guy who started out as a vet for 17 years and then, as he puts it, got his license to kill, his MD.

I got introduced to Wallach by several readers, who sent me tapes of a talk he made called, "Dead Doctors Don't Lie." I should review the tape in my book guide since it's most interesting. So I sent for his book. Wow! I find I'm using it almost every day for reference. It's a large format book, 203p, 1995, \$13 from Wellness Lifestyle, Box 1222, Bonita CA 91908.

Wallach points out that most of the illnesses from which people suffer also used to afflict animals and thus be costly to farmers. Simple, inexpensive cures for these illnesses were discovered years ago by veterinarians. Today, animals no longer suffer from arthritis, Alzheimer's, diabetes, heart trouble, and so on. Just the victims of our "health care" industry. Sorry, but the more I learn, the less I trust doctors, lawyers, politicians, and the chairmen of other major industries. Oh yes, and any government bureau—except, of course (ahem!), the FCC.

The question arises—are you and all of your family in top-notch, fit and trim, robust health? If not, are you interested enough to learn more about your problems and maybe solve them? Probably not, if it means having to read some books. Right?

The Great Twins Fallacy

Yes, I know you have absolutely no interest in this, but who else am I going to tell? This has to do with all this baloney you've been reading—which makes the perhaps over-generous assumption that you *have* been reading—about what scientists have learned about genetics by studying identical twins separated at birth.

The results of the studies have been amazing. Twins turn out to often smoke the same cigarette brand, be married to wives with the same names, name their children the same names and so on. Golly, how astounding that all this is genetic.

Even the gays have been cheering at studies which show that about 50% of identical twins are both gay when one is. Genetics at work, obviously.

Maybe. Maybe not. I think we may be able to rule out a lot of the coincidences between twins if we start investigating the possibility that there is some sort of completely unconscious communications between twins. That isn't too difficult a concept to consider, is it? Since there are millions of people who've experienced some kind of ESP communications, we know that there are times when this happens. We haven't had much luck in repeating it on demand. Scientists are very unhappy with non-repeatable experiments. Most of 'em refuse to accept anything non-repeatable as even being possible.

Having personally experienced such communications where there was not even the remotest possibility for it to be a coincidence, I *know* it's possible. We just have to learn more about it—and refusing to investigate the phenomenon because some scientists believe it's impossible isn't a very good scientific approach.

Then there is the research reported in *The Secret Life of Your Cells* by Robert Stone, telling about the amazing work being done by Cleve Backster and others on the communications between the cells of our bodies. They've shown that our cells somehow stay in communication with us, even when separated by thousands of miles. Which may help explain some of the weird memories people with donated organs and blood transfusions experience. It could also help explain some sort of

communication between twins.

Anyway, the next time you read a report on how amazingly similar twins separated at birth are, forget the genetic implications. Sure, there may be some, but they aren't going to be isolated this way.

We do need to see if we can find out how people can communicate on a subconscious level. Alas, at the pace we're moving now in our research on the mind it'll be another fifty years before we learn enough to harness its incredible power. Maybe a hundred.

Being One's Best

While watching one of Perot's commercials a few days before the election I took particular note of a comment made by both Ross' family and friends that he urged them to not just be good or better, but to be the very best they could be in life. This is a philosophy worthy of consideration. It got me to thinking—have I done my best to be the best that I possibly can? How about you?

There's being your best at your work. What a shame it is when parents don't teach their children the importance of doing their very best. To me that means knowing more about my work than my competitors. It means endlessly doing my homework—which isn't actually work because it's fun. It means attending conferences, taking classes, reading books, subscribing to magazines. I just bought a new stack of books and am working my way through them. Some are tedious to read because they're poorly written, but most are wonderful and give me lots of ideas.

When I took on my responsibility as a member of the New Hampshire Economic Development Commission I refused to let the politicians and their efforts to block the Commission from doing anything of significance hold me back. Ross' idea resonated with me.

Whenever I take up a new interest I tend to go at it whole hog. When I got interested in horseback riding I took lessons—and more lessons. I found better and better experts and soon I was teaching riding myself. And then I was teaching instructors! When I got into sports car rallying I first learned to navigate and then to drive. I developed a new navigation system which filled my shelves with trophies. I needed special watches which would keep time accurately all day so I found a factory in Germany to make them for me and I imported them. I discovered a special pepper-grinder-like calculator used in Europe for currency conversions, but which was ideal for rallying. I went to the Curta factory in Liechtenstein and made a deal to import them for rallyists. I developed and printed my own rally tables, which were incredibly simple compared to those made by others. My customers were soon winning all the rallies.

When I got interested in photography I read books, took lessons and spent endless hours in the school darkroom building my skills. I armed myself with everything from 35mm to 5x7 cameras. This helped be greatly when I became a TV cameraman at WPIX in New York and knew how to compose pictures. As a result I was made Chief Cameraman. Later, when I was a TV director in Dallas and Cleveland, I helped my cameramen get great pictures. In my early publishing days

I took most of my own pictures.

I didn't take up skiing until I was 44, but then I went at it furiously. I took lessons and more lessons. In a few weeks I was skiing better than I ever thought I'd be able to in my life. So I took even more lessons. Now, in my 70s, I'm brittle and thus a bit more cautious in the trails I ski, since breaking something would be extremely inconvenient, but I still tear down the mountains, having more fun than should be legal.

Somehow my parents got across to me the concept of trying to be the best I could at whatever I got interested in. I've been preaching this idea in my editorials, hoping others would see the value of this approach to life and adopt it. So how about you? Do you settle for less than your very best in what you do? Are you the best at work? Are you learning all you can or are you cheating yourself? When you gold brick through life you're only cheating yourself.

Let's see, what is there to do in amateur radio that I haven't done yet? What new challenge is there for me? What challenge is there for you? What haven't you done yet? Why not? What are your excuses?

Chess

How's your chess game? Chess is a wonderful game to teach kids because it's totally skill, with no chance element whatever. When you get involved with chess you soon discover that the more you learn about the game, the better you play. A good player will always trounce a lesser player. Aha! So how does one get to be a good player? You do that the same way you get good at anything else—you read a lot about it and you take some lessons from an expert. You'll have to memorize hundreds of openings, and thousands of end-game closings. You learn to be aggressive or lose. The fact is that the game of chess is a wonderful teacher for life. It'll teach you the fundamentals of business. You'll learn to do your homework, be aggressive, and look for creative new approaches to old situations. You'll learn the value of persistence.

Go is another game of skill and its popularity in Asia has a good deal to do with the way the Asian countries have been running circles around us in business. Chess and Go teach qualities which are valuable to a country. They help teach the work ethic. You don't win at chess unless you work at it, but if you do you'll surely win. That's great training for life.

The American Holy War

I'm asking all Americans to declare war—a holy war—a fundamentalist war—against socialism. Sure, we beat the heck out of socialism in the USSR and Eastern Europe. We've even beat it in Vietnam, if you read the recent article in *Rolling Stone* by P.J. O'Rourke, on his visit there. The one place we haven't beat socialism—the one place it's going the strongest in the world and devastating the country in the process, is right here in America. That's right, here in our US of A.

It was socialism that destroyed the British Empire, turning Great Britain into

Britain, and it's socialism that is at the heart of what's killing America. How did this pernicious anti-God, anti-life religion get such a powerful hold on the world?—and even on America? And how can we fight such a well inculcated religion?

God? Religion? Yep, let me explain. A religion is defined as a belief upheld or pursued with zeal and devotion. Well, that's what we have here.

Getting Fundamental

Religious fundamentalism is causing wars all around the world. Perhaps it's time for us to take a close look at the fundamentals of life and start fighting for them here in America. So let's take a close look at what we've been doing and how it fits in with the most basic laws of nature. Will you be offended if I suggest that the laws of nature are the laws of God?

Okay, what is the most fundamental law for all living things? What is the most basic law of all? It's staying alive, right? At least unless we're really screwed up we'll fight the hardest of all to stay alive. Indeed, this is basic rule number one. This is built right into the genetic pattern of every living thing. This built-in law also causes us an enormous amount of trouble, it being at the heart of all our mental illnesses and aberrant behavior. That's one of the problems that always crops up when you have a law which is enforced, no matter how unreasonable the enforcement. This is a law which helps to kill us. That's a strange dichotomy and may be difficult to grasp, but it's logical.

If self-preservation is rule one, what's rule two? The preservation of yourself through your offspring. That's why we have love, lust, and all those other great-feeling things we think about, talk about, and sing about. We're talking a very, very basic law of nature. I hope you'll agree that this qualifies as rule two. This is the rule which we feel driving us every day. This has to do with bikinis, deoderant soap, tight jeans and so on. It also leads to the concept of the survival of the fittest, which we might consider as rule three and the result of rules one and two.

The reason even the smallest of boys tend to fight is in preparation for later life when they are going to have to fight for the choicest girls. It's genetic. Men fight off other men to ensure the survival of their offspring. Women build nests. This survival of the life forms best adapted to winning the battle to propagate has resulted in the survivors we see around us today.

Now let's look at that survival of the fittest concept and think about it. This is where socialism comes in and screws things up. Socialism has as a basic concept the protection of the weak. We see it in welfare payments. We see it in our non-profit institutions. We have hearts. We've been taught to try and go against nature. We see our whole government working on this fundamental basis, perhaps ignoring the fact that nature is merciless. Nature (God?) abhors the weak and sacrifices them for the long term good of all life.

Did democracy win against socialism in Europe? Of course not! It was capitalism that won. Capitalism is the epitome of the survival of the fittest. Socialism is the opposite—to help the weak to survive. Adam Smith's *The Wealth Of Nations*, written around two hundred years ago, describes how capitalism works with

an "invisible hand." It ties in closely with rule one, self-preservation. It also ties in with rule two, survival of your genes. No wonder capitalism is winning!

Capitalism is winning everywhere it's permitted. Hong Kong and Singapore are capitalist societies and enormously successful. Neither are democratic, by the way. Vietnam is emerging from the chaos of its war at a record pace because capitalism is going strong there. Capitalism is doing pretty well here in America. It's the socialist systems we have in place that are making us sick.

Just take a look at our biggest social works—our public schools, the post office, the government bureaucracies, welfare, unemployment benefits, social security and so on. There isn't one single thing that the socialist approach can do that the capitalist approach can't do better and much, much cheaper.

Our public schools cost more than double what our private schools do and provide a substantially lousier educational product. We have teacher's unions to help protect the jobs of the incompetent teachers who are making a mess of our kids. Every study of the post office has shown that if the service was allowed to go private we'd get far better service at a fraction of the cost. Well, the same thing holds for every government-controlled service we enjoy.

We know what a cesspool the whole welfare system is. Right here in my small town we have people on welfare. I've had employees quit so they could go on welfare and not have to bother working any more. They didn't get as much money, but they never had to work again. One of my employees has a friend who does social work. One of her cases is a 22-year-old woman with two kids. She hasn't worked in years. New Hampshire provides her with an apartment, it provides day care for the older child. None of your economy day care, mind you, we're talking \$90 a week day care. Plus the state spends \$50 a week to provide taxi service to take the kid to the day care center and drive him back. Plus she gets food stamps.

This woman has no marketable skills, nor is she being encouraged to develop any. She's supposed to be getting advice from a social worker, but she's refused to talk with the worker. No one knows how screwed up her younger baby is getting at the hands of this mother.

I wish this was just an anomaly, but the more you read, the more exposés you see on TV, the more you know that something is fundamentally wrong in America. What was it about not screwing with Mother Nature? Well, we may have hundreds of millions of people who believe in the Koran, and hundreds of millions more who believe in The Bible, and more believing in the Baghavad Gita, and so on, but when I look for the hand of God, I see it in the fundamental rules of life. I see it clearly waving us on with rule one: self-preservation. With rule two: continue your life through your children. And I see capitalism in harmony with these dynamics and socialism fighting them—fighting God's will. So that's why I'm preaching fundamentalism. I'm not talking worship or spiritualism. I'm not talking mystical belief. I'm not talking churches and ritual. I'm not talking voodoo or reincarnation. I'm talking the rules which we all can see, feel and experience. I'm talking the rules which make sense.

Are there any other self-evident rules? You bet, it's just that they aren't as all-powerful as number one and two. Our love and protection of family comes under

number two. But beyond that we feel a kinship for our extended family—our group. We find there are times when belonging to a group definitely helps with self-preservation. I'm not sure this is a genetic rule. It may be a pragmatic one, but it's one we learn, even if it isn't genetic. Like the other rules, this one gets us into all sorts of trouble. You can see it going berserk in Yugoslavia, Checkoslovakia, Northern Ireland, India, Sri Lanka, Timor, Ethiopia, Sudan, and so on. It's doing fairly well here in America, helping keep the blacks, whites and Hispanics at odds.

Yes, we do need government. We just don't need anywhere near as much government. Most of what the government is doing—or perhaps trying to do, but failing—could be done for a fraction of the cost and done infinitely better if we could reject the socialist mind set.

What would our government be like if it was run like a business? Suppose inefficient and arrogant workers could be fired as they are in most for-profit businesses? Yes, we'd have to change our educational system so people would have the skills they need to do the work efficiently. Well, if we can get the government to stop forcing us under penalty of law to send our kids to public institutions, we'd have people with the needed skills and the enthusiasm to use them.

We've made teaching such a lousy profession that it's the poorest students who go for it—the people who don't feel qualified to compete in the capitalist world. And who teaches the next generation of teachers? The lowest 20% of the previous generation. It's no wonder we're spending the most of any developed country on education and getting the worst results. Why, it's almost enough to make a person think.

Is There An Escape?

Sure there is, but it means war. We civilians just barely outnumber the socialists in America. By the time you add up everyone sucking on the public teat—teachers, postal workers, state and federal civil servants, social workers, school administrators, our labor unions, and the military, you can see why we're paying such high taxes and getting so little for it. Nothing is working well. We're up to here in drugs, in crime, prison problems, clogged courts, welfare, the homeless, riots, failed banks, failed loans, unemployment, lousy sewers, air we can see, polluted water, dying oceans, and so on.

Now, are we game to start fighting back? Have we had enough yet? Or is it hopeless and we should just keep our heads down and avoid trouble as best we can? How many of us are "mad as hell" yet?

Yes, I'm preaching revolution. I'm preaching war. No, not with guns and Molotov Cocktails, I'm talking about fighting first at the state level. I'm talking running for the state legislature and changing your state. I'm talking getting people who will bring change to Washington with a mandate to abolish compulsory education. Once they do that and private schools can compete with public schools, we'll see capitalism take over.

Once a private mail service is permitted the US Snail will blow away, just as Parcel Post has been decimated by UPS. Let's privatize everything we can think

of. Let's get bids from private companies to run our prisons, car licensing, and so on.

If we can get education out from under the socialist system we won't need government jobs to take care of underachievers.

The best part is that we should be able to cut the costs of government by around 75% and thus cut our taxes significantly. We might even see the return of the one wage earner family—and mothers with the time to devote to their children.

It looks to me as if capitalism is an idea whose time has come. It's in line with nature. It's in line with God's rules. We're paying the penalty for fighting Mother Nature—and it's a stiff one.

The Solutions

In my editorials over the last few years I've tackled many of the problems besetting America (and much of the world, for that matter). I've proposed some fairly simple solutions to miseries such as our inexcusable education system, drugs, high prison costs, the inner city riots, cleaning up the horrible mess we've let Congress get in, the deficit, our bloated government (both state and federal), eliminating college tuition, cutting education costs by around 50%, and so on. As a member of the New Hampshire Economic Development Commission I did further research on these problems, put that together with my past ideas and presented the whole works as my report to the Commission. Urged on by friends (yes, I still have a few), I put the report into book form.

My solutions may not be the best, but they all seem practical and to do what's needed—and most of them aren't all that difficult to implement. We're in a time when everyone seems stunned by the problems and few people are even thinking in terms of solutions. Well, most of our problems have been solved somewhere in the world before, so it's more a question of finding these solutions and applying them here.

We know the problems—I've proposed some practical solutions—now what can we do? The sorry fact is that the fox is guarding the hen house. Trying to convince politicians that capitalism is better than socialism calls for a leap of faith few will be able to manage. We had several politicians on the Economic Development Commission, so I know how deeply ingrained the whole socialist manifesto is with them. Private schools? Oh, my God! Get welfare people interested in working? Oh, I forgot to mention, the New Hampshire welfare people put in cable TV for that 22-year-old woman so she'd be able to watch more than just the four major channels during her long, empty days sitting at home. That costs \$75 to have installed and I forget how much a month. Yes, they're paying extra so she can have the movie channels. And you may be sure that this same outrageous nonsense is going on where you live and that you are paying for it. That comes out of (a) the 28% of your pay you never even see, (b) the other hidden taxes like those on business which make you pay more for products, and (c) the government's borrowing from you to fund the deficit. And that's money you'll have to work for years to repay. Are you upset yet? What does it take?

Another person I know has a sister who worked for the post office for a year and a half and then paid a doctor for a phony letter saying that she was suffering

from stress. She was put on 2/3rds pay and retired at 22. She's been happily living on this for the last twenty years, getting full postal worker medical and retirement benefits, and with no income taxes.

There are endless examples like this—and these are the people who are going to fight any changes in the system. We're supporting these leeches. We're working hard to support them. We have to make do with old worn-out things—buy a cheaper car or rent an apartment instead of buying a home—send our kids to public school instead of a private school, thereby doing them irreparable harm—all so a welfare mother won't have to learn to type and get a job doing data input. It makes you proud to be an American. It makes you want to re-elect the lousy ba . . . er . . . chaps who've been doing this to you, right?

With both the Democrats and the Republicans promising lower taxes and both increasing taxes when in power, it's no wonder so many Americans are fed up. And the challengers to the congressional seats aren't promising anything different. Most of them are career politicians and will be the same as the present crew. Any fear of not being re-elected will immobilize them when it comes to making changes which the postal, civil service or educational unions oppose.

So, as Pogo said, "We've met the enemy, and the enemy is us." We just don't care enough about having our money taken from us. We don't care about the way they waste it. We don't care that we're being screwed. Oh, I suppose we care—a little—but not enough to take time from watching ball games or having a beer to actually try and do anything about it.

One thing is certain, we can fight nature for a while, but eventually nature will win. The sooner we stop fighting against nature and start fighting for her, the sooner our quality of life as a country will start improving. God has been speaking, but not many have been listening.

Please form Never Re-elect Anyone groups and can the politicians.

Do It Yourself Education

Millions of people are being thrown out of work as companies, mainly larger ones, downsize. Production workers are replaced by automation, cutting down on blue collar jobs. Other production work is moved to Mexico or Asia, chasing lower wages for low-skilled (and often better educated) work. This isn't heartlessness, it's capitalism at work. It's also that most fundamental rule of nature (God, if you like) about the survival of the fittest—natural selection. The smarter are surviving, though smart, in this case, has little to do with IQ, and everything to do with figuring things out, which almost anyone can do—if they think.

Using modern tools to increase productivity without having to work harder or longer—working smarter, we call it—will win out over sweat and grind in the long run. Despite the proliferation of computers, the one place we've lagged seriously behind in productivity has been in white collar work—but we're finally beginning to catch up with the productivity gains manufacturing automation have brought to the production floor. And this means that office workers who work smarter are going to replace those who've been too lazy to learn. And that means

unemployment for those who have ignored work related education.

Scientists, engineers and technicians (the smocks) invent the products; blue collar workers make them; white collar workers market 'em. As any look through the want ads will tell you, we're terribly short on smocks these days. We're up to here in unneeded low-productivity blue collars and we've a growing surplus of the same in white collars. The smarter people are aware of this change and are coping with it by improving their education. A high productivity worker will never be out of work for long.

So how do we learn more and avoid the humility of being unemployed? Do we go back to school, perhaps taking adult courses? And if we do, in what? Or should we go to Barnes and Noble and see what books we can find to help? How about attending conferences and workshops?

It doesn't take a lot of smarts to discover that the money is in the white collar section. Skilled smocks and blue collars are never going to make much because they aren't on the end where the money lies. The big dough is in sales. It doesn't take a genius to see that perfectly wonderful products are losing the sales battle right and left. So much for the value of the smocks. There's almost no correlation between how good a product is and how well it sells. One only has to look at the music industry for proof of that.

It took me a while to figure this out. I got sucked into going to an engineering college because I was into ham radio when I was in high school. I had a great interest in electronics, radio and audio, so I got conned into engineering. Then along came WWII and four years in the navy. By that time I was smarter, so as soon when I returned to college on the GI Bill, I changed from engineering to the management of technology. Good move.

But how does the average Joe cope with the changes going on? One of the best ways is to at least dip one toe into entreprenuring—to start a small business, even if it's in one's spare time. I've recommended that those of the amateur radio persuasion consider getting involved with security products sales, installation and service. Or TV and computer repairs. Things like that where their supposed knowledge of electronics will give them an edge.

The Publishing Entrepreneur

One way to take advantage of an interest is to start publishing a newsletter and then let it get out of hand. This was what got me hooked. I was having a ball with RTTY back in 1949, but I wanted to learn more and there weren't many information sources. In 1951 I went to work for WXEL in Cleveland as a TV director and by golly, there was a perfectly good mimeograph machine, just waiting for me to start a newsletter. Thus was born *Amateur Radio Frontiers*, my first publication. Thus started a life-long learning experience which has done well for me.

As a publisher you learn to write, edit, set type, lay out pages. You learn about cover design, advertising and ad sales, dealing with printers, how to handle trade shows, make travel arrangements, write subscription, renewal and collection letters, establish ad rates, design media packs, develop direct sales, deal with news-

stands and distributors, handle fulfillment of subscriptions, decide on publication size, buy paper, how to deal with dishonest competition and their lying circulation numbers, do cost accounting, photography, artwork, half tones, color separations, and so on. It's an endless learning experience, because as soon as you get to be an expert on the subject, the technology changes.

Publishing was mostly done on sheet-fed presses when I started 73 back in 1960. The type was set on Linotype machines in lead slugs. Hot type. Then came cold type and Varitypers as the printing changed to photo-offset in the 1970s. IBM jumped in front by automating their electronic typewriters and running them from a magnetic tape—I got one of the first IBM Composers and got very good at using it.

Next came Compugraphic and the Photo Typositor, with an even more advanced system. That put IBM, who neglected to keep up with the technology, out of the typesetting business. Then, in the late '70s and early '80s, computers made typesetters more and more intelligent. In 1983 I shopped around and bought the most advanced computerized typesetting system (the Bedford) when I set up a new publishing company. The whole works cost me about \$500,000.

Less than ten years later our little microcomputers were powerful enough to take over. Today most publishers are using Macintosh desktop computer systems. They set the type and even lay out the pages, and the cost for everything is around \$50,000. But if all you need is a system for publishing a newsletter, today you can buy a used Mac computer and laser printer for under \$1,000.

This is being typed on my Macintosh. The finished text comes out of my computer in columns, with the spelling checked, the lines justified and hyphenated. It prints out on my little desktop LaserWriter just as it will appear in my book. For magazine use these pages would be outputted in negative form and sent to a printer who would make offset printing plates to print the magazine. In my case the finished pages are put in a photocopier which makes them into a mimeograph-type master, from which the pages are printed. But this is usually for short run work of up to a thousand or two copies.

As a publisher I've had to learn everything about the business. I've read books, magazine articles, attended workshops, talked with other publishers and so on. Learning how to build newsstand sales is not easy. Like almost any business, the whole system is infested with sharks, all waiting to screw the hell out of you if you don't know what you're doing. I don't know if 10% or 20% of the people in any business are basically crooked or not, but the percentage is high.

These days I've been giving lectures at colleges on what an editor does. There's much more to being the editor of a publication than correcting spelling and grammar on submitted articles. An editor has to be up to date on the technology being covered. The editor should be soliciting articles—should know the pioneers and movers in the field personally. The editor should know the key advertisers and their products. The editor has to know if a submitted article is technically correct or not. I've recently seen egregious examples of editorial stupidity in the audio field.

Even the Japanese have been blind to this, investing billions in analog high definition TV. They may have beaten the heck out of us in consumer electronics production, but they're making cataclysmic marketing mistakes which give us all

sorts of opportunities—all of which we've managed to miss so far.

Just look at the way they shot themselves in the foot with their Beta vs. VHS battle, which held back the VCR market for several years. They managed to agree on CDs, so that was the fastest growing new consumer electronics industry in history. Then they went at it again with their digital compact cassette (DCC) and mini-disc (MD) technologies. These managed to kill each other, wasting billions of yen.

Any business you get into in your spare time will be a learning experience which will help free you from the fear of being out of work. It's money in the bank. And, of course, once you begin to know your spare time business it's going to expand and you'll get the heck out of that old nine to five and never have to worry again about being fired. Oh, you'll have a new bunch of worries. And you'll be working 100-hour weeks instead of 30 or so. But you'll be having the time of your life. Only your wife and kids will notice. Unless of course you entrap them in your new found fun and they're a part of your new business.

I keep plugging for publishing because there's such a tremendous need for information. I've a list of dozens of new publications that are needed. Like there's this inventor Ovshinski out in the Midwest, who came up with Ovonics around twenty years ago. He was on to something, but he never really got anywhere because there was no publication to provide information on his Ovonic developments. You'll see his technology in Ovonic photo-electric panels, but not much else.

New technologies desperately need supporting publications. Any growing field needs information resources to feed the growth. Pick a new industry, become an expert, and start publishing. Or just start publishing and then become an expert, the way I did with computers, digital audio and now with cold fusion.

When I published the first issue of *Byte* I didn't know squat about computers. Within a year I was lecturing on 'em. Within two I'd started two more computer magazines and was putting on a major industry computer show at the Boston Commonwealth Pier. But without all I'd learned about publishing by starting *Amateur Radio Frontiers* in my spare time, none of that would have been possible.

There isn't one thing that I've done that anyone else couldn't have done. I just used my time differently. I used it to create things and to learn. I read a lot. I just counted and I've got over sixty six-foot bookcases full of books I've read. That's more than one bookcase a year for the last fifty years. That's a little more than the average person in *Who's Who* reads—they average about twenty books a year. I seem to be running more like ten books a month, but then there are an awful lot of things I'm interested in. My recent orgy of reading as homework for my report to the New Hampshire Economic development Commission got me into a bunch of new areas.

If you're even remotely in danger of being unemployed as a result of changes in technology or business, you could do worse than look for a spare-time business to start—and use as a learning tool. We don't need management layers these days when we have faxes, answering machines, cellular phones, the web, pagers, conferencing, voice mail, Fedex, UPS, computers and so on. Business is changing

and we either change with it or we're in for a cold, hard shock as we line up for those old unemployment checks and start wondering what in hell happened.

It doesn't make any difference how well you can do a job that isn't needed anymore. Or one that can be done for half the price or less in Mexico. Or one that can be done cheaper and faster by a computer. Where are those endless rows of statisticians and people at adding machines in insurance companies? Well, they're sure not doing that kind of work anymore. So how secure is your job? If it blows away, have you a parachute ready? Have you been building other skills and interests?

Amateur radio is a wonderful spawning ground for new ideas. It provides a fantastic opportunity to learn, both from books and by doing. The early ham repeater aficionados easily went into cellular radio and two-way radio sales and service. Others just blathered and still have a problem coming up with their membership dues for the ARRL every year. Once you have some skills and know what you're doing, you'll never be short of money again. You'll be able to zip over to Europe or Asia if you want. You'll be able to go on a ham expedition to some rare spot. You'll be able to buy that new ham rig. *Any* new ham rig.

Mail order is coming along fast, opening up many opportunities. I started my first mail order business when I was 12 and I'm still at it. Mail order will either teach you a lot about advertising or punish you endlessly. You'll learn about using direct mail, 800-numbers, inventory control, just-in-time deliveries, pricing, off-shore manufacturing, importing, exporting, writing and designing catalogs, printing, bulk mailing, the internet and so on. And you'll start building quite a library.

Sudden Death

There's one more benefit to building your skills. This has to do with your sense of self-worth. People who have low esteem, such as those who are retired, have a much higher incidence of fatal heart attacks. Since your sense of worth helps keep you alive, perhaps it's worth an investment of your time.

It turns out that our feeling of being useful has a lot to do with our staying alive. Well, it makes sense, from a survival of the fittest point of view. Once a life is no longer useful nature tends to get rid of it. Nature (God?) is not merciful.

A Business Opportunity

Okay, all you incipient entrepreneurs, you've been pestering me for ideas for new products, here's one to think about.

The idea for the product came out of my research into what's gone wrong with our American educational system. Mostly it's an old socialist oriented system, based on the factory approach to teaching. We need to admit, even in educational circles, that capitalism has won over socialism and start phasing out our failed social experiments—like our public schools.

In Japan, where families are far more involved with their children's education and far less involved with nightly family hypnotic sessions watching sitcoms and ball games on TV, complete with six-packs, the families make sure the kids under-

stand the importance of education by providing each of their children with a desk for doing their homework.

The product is a kid-sized desk, complete with the best lighting for doing homework. Make it sturdy, not out of cardboard. Give it places to keep things, and a place for the computer. Make it deliverable knocked-down, but simple to assemble.

With the increased parental interest in helping their kids do well in school, you should have one heck of a market for these and sell 'em by the zillions.

The parent market is the big one. Every kid should have a well-lit, dedicated study desk and a quiet place in which to use it. Now, can you bring in the economy model for under \$100 retail? Plus shipping, of course. The deluxe model, with drawers and shelves, should do well at around \$299. And a matching comfortable chair for an extra \$49? I've been paying about \$30 for my six-foot wooden bookshelves, so a desk to retail for under \$100 should be easy to manage.

How The Brain Works

It might be closer to title this piece "Why we're all crazy." That's more the normal journalistic style—go for people's attention. Well, it works for the *National Enquirer*, right?

Though we tend to constantly look for similarities in people—things with which we are familiar—we have to admit that everyone is different. Some are a lot different, some just a little. Those who are a whole lot different we label as crazy. But it's all just a matter of degree.

And that raises the question, how come everyone is so different? And when someone gets too different is there anything we can do about it? Or do we have to lock 'em up and do our best not to be bothered? Of course once we understand why people are different, that'll presumably help us not only repair those who are the most screwed up (different), but might also help anyone with a less than optimum response to things.

To understand how our mind works we have to start with some very basic concepts. Also, I hope the concept that the mind and body are parts of the same organism and can't really be considered separately won't strain you. When I refer to the mind, that's shorthand for mind/brain/body.

Law One

All living things obey one universal law, the law of self-preservation. It's a good basic law and the one from which the other natural laws developed. Once you have that one law, the others are inevitable — such as survival of yourself through your children — and the survival of all living things through natural selection and the survival of the fittest.

Now, if you were going to design a living thing of any kind, you'd build in the self-preservation law as part of the most fundamental programming. You'd hard wire that into the computer system. Computer system? Well, all living things seem to be able to be aware of other living things and react to them, from amoebas to

trees — even most people. That calls for some kind of intelligence that we don't see in a rock. So let's, for simplicity's sake, compare whatever living things use to be aware of other things and react to them to a computer. It'll greatly simplify my job of explaining how people work. If you understand about programming computers, that won't hurt either. That means understanding about hard-wired instructions, machine language, and so on.

So let's start by comparing our brain to a computer. And that's mostly what it is. No, it isn't digital. We're just beginning to discover how the fool thing really works. We have discovered that it's awfully complicated, but we haven't even located exactly where memories are stored or in what way they're stored. We know, but don't like to admit, that not all brains are equal at birth. There's a little matter of genetic design, with everyone being a little different. That "all men are created equal" stuff is baloney and gets reason-challenged people into all kinds of trouble. Some people start out with better brains.

Alas, by the time the kid gets squeezed out into the world some nine months later, the environment has already had a good (or bad) head start on programming. Now, if you use common sense (whatever *that* is), or understand computers, you know that the earlier the programming, the more influence it has on the end ability of the computer to function effectively. Well, you're going to hate the concept, but that's the way it is with kids. That nine months sloshing around, getting occasional poundings from dada as he sees how close to birth he can continue sex with mommy, and other discomforts, all are programmed into the developing computer system.

Yes, that little fetus can hear what's going on. No, it can't think yet. But it can and does react to noises, drugs, and other disturbances. The real downer is that little Icky in there is busy recording a lot of that noise—and that includes voices. Ask me how come the fetus does something like that.

Let's go back to Law One, self preservation. Well, if a living thing is going to preserve itself it has to avoid getting killed. Make sense? And what helps living things avoid death? Senses. Like for instance pain. We have a built-in pain sensing system to protect us from hurting ourselves. We go to rather great lengths to avoid pain because that's equated with non-survival on a very basic level.

Now here's where things get screwed up. The basic idea is a good one. The stove is hot and you get burned if you touch it. So you quickly learn to keep your wandering fingers off stoves. You avoid the pain—and that helps you keep ten operating fingers—at least until you take shop and are inattentive for a moment.

The hard-wired programs in our computers have an instruction which says that when we feel pain we equate that pain to our other perceptics. This is a way to help us avoid the pain a second time. So if we see a stove or hear a kettle, or whatever, we don't have to consciously consider whether to draw back those fingers or not, we get 'em the hell out of there fast and think about it later. This doesn't happen on a conscious level, it's subconscious. Well, the difference in time between the two functions can save your life, so that's a good basic program.

The pain sets up this sort of look-up table in the subconscious mind which has a little bunch of neurons equating the perceptics registered at the time of pain. This is not a thinking operation, it's entirely automatic. Alas, as Congress has proven to

us endlessly, even the best of laws tend to have bad consequences. And this basic response has some terrible consequences. The basic idea probably works fine for trees and amoebas, but by the time it's applied to humans it's in need of some serious updating. But changing a basic law is far more difficult than tinkering with the Constitution—like trying to pass a law preventing Congress from spending more money than we have.

The problem is that it doesn't take long before there are thousands of these memory circuits, all warning us to avoid sounds, sights, feelings, and so on. Then tens of thousands. Yes, it's possible to go into the mind and erase these fool equation circuits and when we do the person's IQ zooms upwards as more and more of the mind is available for thinking and no longer tied up with all that garbage.

The basic instruction says we're to avoid pain because pain can lead to death. Maybe you've noticed, but all pain isn't physical. We suffer emotional pain too. And yes, the brain treats emotional pain exactly the same way it treats physical pain—it sets up a circuit with all the perceptics dutifully recorded that went with the pain.

Does all this make good sense? And now can you see why, with subconscious messages to avoid this and to avoid that, why we are so irrational? That's the way we've been programmed. We don't know why we are uncomfortable when we hear a certain sound. We don't have a clue that a certain sound pattern can trigger our reactions. Sound pattern? Do I mean like the pattern of some words? Bet your bippy I do.

So let's go back to that fetus recording sounds when it registers pain. It's like a tape recording. There's no understanding of what the sound patterns mean. That comes later, and still on a subconscious level, where the sounds still have no way to be translated into a consciously understood meaning. But, whooey, can they have an impact on our lives!

Hypnotism

If you know much about hypnotism you know that people can be made to do things they wouldn't normally be able to do—and then later have no recollection of doing them. You can tell a hypnotized person that when they wake up they will not be able to see a certain person in the room. And they won't.

You can tell them that when they've been brought out of the trance they'll take off their jacket when you touch your sleeve—and put it on again when you touch your chin. You wake them up and they'll be taking off their jacket and putting it back on a dozen times, each time coming up with what is to them a rational reason for it. After a while it'll finally become apparent, even to them, that something's amiss. But meanwhile they will sincerely explain their actions and truly believe what they are saying.

The subconscious works that way. The sorry fact is that we can't believe our own conscious minds. We're constantly lying to ourselves and others. This has a lot to do with why none of today's psychotherapy has much of an effect in changing people. We don't consciously lie, but on the subconscious level the lying is

endemic as these protective pain avoidance circuits kick in and out.

Or maybe you didn't know that none of the psychotherapies work any better than leaving people alone. Researchers have proven this, but it's one of those dirty secrets the medical industry doesn't brag about.

The Good News

Yes, it's possible to help others to erase those darned pain avoidance memory circuits. I know how to do it and I'm very good at it. It takes a little practice—practice and a solid understanding of what you're doing. No, you can't do anything to help yourself—it's that conscious mind of yours, which will protect you until your death. The therapist has to bypass the conscious mind and work entirely with the subconscious—which fortunately is simple to do.

The Bad News

As far as I know, no one else is available anywhere that knows how to do this. There used to be a few people who were very good at it, but most of 'em are dead now—and I'm not looking so good myself. The other bad news aspect of this is that once you understand how to repair screwed up brains, you also have a key to use your knowledge for evil. One chap, who I knew quite well, did this and made billions.

Wow, billions! Does that get your envy working? I think that's one of my problems. I haven't any envy. I can't think of anyone in the world that I envy—or that I even remember envying. I personally know a bunch of multi-millionaires and even a few billionaires. I wouldn't swap with any of 'em.

Yes, I could tell you how to help others with psychological problems. But you'll find the same thing I did. People's conscious minds are so protective that they'll do almost anything to avoid cleaning out the circuits that are screwing them up. They'll take off and put on their jackets for years, coming up with fresh excuses each time—excuses they really believe. And they'll get into lousy relationships, act irrationally, and make a mess of their lives and those around them. But get help? Har-de-har. It's the same with drug addicts who are the last to admit their addiction—to crack, nicotine, or alcohol.

So I'm not sure why you'd want to bother learning how to help people when so few are willing to be helped. And you can't help yourself. Of course, if you work with someone else, you can help each other, which works out well. The problem with that is that you can't ever work with someone who is afraid of what you'll think. This erects a wall. It really has to be a stranger to work well. And once you get familiar with the process you can go in there and clean out whole messes of avoidance circuits in short order. You can actually help 100% of the people you work with and do in hours what other therapies only hope to do in months or years.

I've helped well over a hundred different people so far, so I have some interesting anecdotes. No, I haven't time to go back into that business, so don't ask. But I will say that very few chronic illnesses are unavoidable. Every illness has a psy-

chological component—an easily found and erased component—once you know how.

I stopped doing this mind repair stuff because I wasn't able to find enough people interested in being helped. Also, not being a doctor, there was always the potential for being put in jail. The law doesn't care what kind of results you are getting, they only go by your credentials.

Explaining how to repair the mind isn't as easy as explaining how it works and how it gets so screwed up, so it'll take a good deal of whining and complaining to get me back to my word processor to tackle that topic. I expect I'll get a lot more "I don't always agree with you" baloney. As soon as you've done as much research on the subject as I have I'll respect your opinions—if you can back 'em up with facts or experimental data that is repeatable—which I can. My concept of how the mind works not only makes sense, once you understand the concept, you can see why it has to be that way. It explains everything we see happening, with no loose ends or anomalies.

It also explains why psychiatrists and psychoanalysts have such a dismal record of repairing minds. Phooey!

Green For President

Recently I've gotten a pile (two) of letters asking why don't I run for president. Well there are several good reasons. First, I don't have a hundred million. Second, it's a really lousy job. Third, I'm seventy-four years old and thus very likely to drop dead any day now. Fourth, the media would have a ball interviewing my enemies—and I've got a bunch.

I get to thinking about my enemies every now and then. I don't think you'll find one that I've screwed. The intensity of the hate that I generate seems to be proportional to the depth that I've been screwed. My biggest enemy took me for about \$100 million. That's enough to hate anyone for, I suppose. Of course I can look on the bright side—this has kept me from running for the presidency, with all that aggravation. The people who only took me for a few hundred thou are only moderate enemies.

Surely I'm exaggerating, right? I'm laughing, but it's a bitter laugh. I figure as long as I can make more money than people can steal, what the heck. And yes, I'm careless with both money and my things. I'm careless with people too, lending money to almost anyone who asks. One chap borrowed \$25,000 to start a tape business—another \$5,000 to start a computer art gallery—another \$5,000 to set up a psychological therapy business—another \$5,000 to help a newspaper grow—another \$5,000 to keep a small magazine afloat. Then there was about \$250,000 to set a chap up in a new software business. And \$350,000 for a computer protection system. \$250,000 in computer inventory got swiped from my stores and about \$300,000 from my warehouse. One chap swiped about \$10,000 in CDs to start a CD business. How about the "friend" who "borrowed" \$50,000 to keep his store afloat? And then went bankrupt? Or the one who "borrowed" \$350,000 from me to invest in rental homes? The real estate market pooped out and the bank won the

houses. No, I don't think the media would have any problem finding endless testimony against me. How about the employee who sold himself forty computers from our lab at scrap prices and resold them for around \$100,000? He went to work for a competitor and died of a heart attack, so the *Enquirer* will have to get his story via a psychic. I'll bet even the ex-employee who broke into my ham shack recently and cleaned out around \$10,000 in ham equipment hates me now.

People aren't geared to take someone for a bundle without projecting the guilt. They don't want to feel guilty about what they've done to me, so they hate me and then it's okay.

Yes, it's a lot more difficult now to pry money out of me to start new businesses. You know, I've never yet had anyone pay me back. Not one. But then I've always just handed them the money without all sorts of contracts. I figured if I got it back I'd be able to help someone else. One chap did repay a little, but that ended after about two small payments. The others stopped calling or writing, or answering my letters.

I'm happy doing what I'm doing. I don't need or want the aggravation that comes with public office. And I don't know for sure how I'd react to the temptations. When you're a Senator or Representative it's easy to threaten one special interest after another and reap tons of money in lobbyist donations to keep you off their backs. Say, I wonder if you noticed that Senator Gore has consistently been one of the top recipients of PAC lobby donations? Talk about special interests having friends in high places, what with him in the Veep spot!

I'm busy and enjoying what I'm doing. Between editing 73, publishing *Cold Fusion*, and giving talks I'm keeping plenty busy. If I get some time I'd like to go into my recording studio and make tapes of me reading the Oz, Kai Lung, and Ernest Thompson Seton nature books—mostly for kids.

Also I have at least a hundred books backed up that readers have recommended for a place on my list of "books you're crazy if you don't read." And I want to help promote the blood purifier (also known as the Bioelectrifier), since the evidence is growing that this little baby can knock out AIDS, cancer, and a host of other illnesses. Put that down as another new technology that I'm promoting. Yes, I'm sure busy! President? Phooey.

Fixing The Brain

Earlier I discussed how the brain works. Now I'll explain how I got involved in all that.

It all started with an article in *Analog*. When I was young I read a lot of science fiction. The best was in *Astounding Stories*, edited by John Campbell W2ZGU. The magazine is now *Analog*.

John had an enormous influence on me. He was the first magazine editor I'd ever known who wrote long editorials about whatever was interesting him at the time. How many magazines have you seen with interesting editorials? It's rare. I eventually got to be good friends with John. We'd get together for lunch every few weeks. Talking with him was exciting—like a mental roller coaster, with ideas on

nuclear physics, cosmology, quantum physics and so on going by in rapid succession. He was interested in everything and never restrained by scientific or religious dogma. Alas, he smoked, so he died far too young.

So here I am, still an *Analog* subscriber after 60 years and still turning to their science fact article the first thing every month. They're often outstanding. Well, they were better before the current editor took over. The quality of fact articles has since declined.

The fact article John published on how the brain worked made so much sense that I bought the book on the subject. I had to know more. Since I approach all new ideas as a pragmatist, I wanted to give this new concept a try and see if it really worked. The idea that painful incidents happening to a baby before it's born could influence it all through life was rejected flat out by doctors and psychiatrists, yet from a systems analysis view, it made perfect sense.

I was a radio announcer at WSPB, a radio station in Sarasota, Florida, at the time. I talked over the idea with a fellow announcer. He was skeptical, but game for us to give it a try and see what would happen. We decided to see if we could find out why he had to cough every time he was starting to announce. He'd solved the problem by installing a small switch by the microphone which would cut it off while he coughed.

So I put him into a light hypnotic state and asked him to repeat the word cough. I then asked him to go to the earliest time he had to cough and to say whatever came to mind. He said, "I've got to cough." I asked him to keep repeating that and see what else came to mind. This developed into, "Every time I get nervous I have to cough."

For about an hour I kept getting him to come up with more words and phrases. I asked him his age and he said eight. I asked if that was years. He said no, it was months. I said before or after birth. He said it was before birth. Hmmm. Sure. Well, if it might help, what's the difference, so we continued. I wrote down the stuff he was saying. The story that emerged was of his mother and father living in the back of a cold, damp factory building. His mother had a bad cough, which apparently was painful to little pre-Joe. The father said something about her staying with the family next door, the Murphys, until she felt better.

Whether this was all fantasy or reality I didn't know, but it was intriguing. And once we'd run through all this stuff a few times Joe never again had to cough when he was announcing. Something worked.

A few weeks later Joe's mother visited for a few days. I took her out to lunch, armed with my notebook. I asked her if she'd ever lived in the back of a factory. She was incredulous. Yes, not long before Joe was born. Was she sick at the time? She thought for a moment and then said she'd had a terrible cough. As far as she could remember this experience had never been mentioned after Joe was born. She'd forgotten about the whole thing until I reminded her. Then I asked if she'd stayed with some friends next door for a while. Yes! And did she remember their name? Was it Murphy? Yes, it was, and she was sure she'd never even thought of them since Joe was born.

This did a lot to convince me that this was a real experience that Joe was

bringing up under hypnosis. Of course there's always the possibility that he might somewhere have heard about all this and forgotten it. But that's a remote possibility since under hypnosis you don't forget things. It's all there. And I was careful not to use any suggestion.

Being a pragmatist I wasn't quite as interested in whether these were real memories or fake, as long as dredging them up and "running" them would erase the patterns causing problems in present time. I felt I had hold of something important, so I wanted to know more.

The radio station owner was impressed with my announcing and ability to ad lib morning shows. He offered to let me have a three-hour morning spot and share in the ad sales it would generate. This was an opportunity that many disc jockeys would kill for, but while I enjoyed the work, I couldn't see myself devoting my life to being a DJ. I quit to learn more about how to help repair minds. I moved to New Jersey and a research foundation. This turned out to be the wisest decision of my entire life.

In a few weeks of concentrated work I learned how to find and remove the causes of people's problems. Doctors today agree that all diseases have emotional components. What we discovered was how to find these and remove the basic causes for most illnesses. We even discovered that an amazingly high percentage of what seem like accidents have emotional causes.

My experience with Joe was repeated endlessly with other people I worked with. I've been promising myself I'd write a book on how the mind works and how to fix it, complete with anecdotes on the people I helped.

At the foundation we learned by working on each other. While the process is lightning fast in comparison to psychiatry or psychoanalysis, it's still slow enough so those working with it don't see startling changes on a day to day basis. Week to week, yes. In the work done for me I found myself being held down by two doctors and my parents when I was four years old. My ear was infected and they'd decided to operate on it. I was frightened as they put the ether mask over my nose and mouth.

Then there was the time I got across my 2,000 volt power supply and was thrown six feet across my ham shack. Whammo!

After a few weeks of erasing these painful memories, plus a lot of very painful beatings by my father, I found my awareness had improved enormously, as had my ability to think.

At this time I was faced with another career choice. Should I go back to radio work? Should I go back to being a television director? Or should I be a therapist? I tried the therapist business for a while, working on something over a hundred patients and having some amazing successes. But I found that most people preferred to live with their problems. This was frustrating. This was very frustrating. I'd meet people who stuttered, or who had other easily curable physical or emotional problems, but didn't want to do anything about them. I decided it would be better to pursue a technology oriented career.

If we can ever get over the concept that psychiatrists, psychologists and psychoanalysts can cure mental problems, we may be ready to get to work actually

repairing minds. It's easy to do. It's fast. And you don't have any relapses. And you sure don't need a medical degree to do this technician-type work.

I'd like to see the basic concept incorporated into a computer program which would help doctors to diagnose not just a patient's physical illness, but also isolate the root emotional (subconscious) tie-in so that can be erased. That'll resolve many physical illnesses a lot faster than pills. The whole system is routine enough so it could be computerized.

We do need a lot more research so we'll know what kind of successes we can have with things like dual personalities, multiple sclerosis, cancers, alcoholism, and so on. Another aspect that needs more research is the past-life phenomenon. Many psychiatrists run into this and dismiss it. Some have had considerable success in treating past life traumas just as if they were real. I started to do some research in this field, but didn't follow through. I did find that every person, under hypnosis, can be regressed to times of great trauma in what they say are previous lives—or, more often past deaths. Being pragmatic, I found the whole thing interesting, but I wasn't sure whether these were real, or just imaginary. I found that when I erased them, just as I would a present-life trauma, the patient would change significantly and seem no longer influenced by the previous life events. People with a great fear of water, when regressed to find the cause, would pop instantly to a drowning death. I'd erase the trauma response and they'd no longer be afraid of the water. Oddly enough I was unable to find any water related traumas during their present life, even during the prenatal period. Well, real or fantasy, what I was doing did the job, and that was what counted.

Many people dismiss past lives, psychics and so on as fantasy. I remain pragmatic, with an open mind. I've had too many instances of psychic phenomenon during my life to refuse to even consider that we may have a lot to learn about all this yet.

During one of the more traumatic moments of my life, when I was terribly distraught, the telephone rang. It was my mother, 120 miles away. She said, "What's wrong? I know something's terribly wrong." Coincidence? Hardly. This was the only time in my life she ever called like that, and she had no way of knowing I had any problems. So I'm open to know more about life, death, and other pseudo-scientific matters. I'm not a passionate believer, just a pragmatist who wants to know more. I believe we still have a lot to learn. There are just too many unexplainable anomalies—too many loose ends in need of tying.

Book Review on EMF dangers

WARNING: The Electricity Around You May Be Hazardous to Your Health — by Ellen Sugarman — Simon & Schuster — \$11.00.

This fascinating book tells the story of the criminal cover-up by power companies, dishonest scientists and even the White House of the death and serious health problems caused by 60 Hz power line magnetic fields. Remember, one of the leading researchers in the field is Dr. Ross Adey K6UI, who has proven in his own research the incredible power to affect cell growth of even very small mag-

netic fields. Power lines, pole transformers and other sources of magnetic fields are causing leukemia, brain cancer, and a whole range of other immunity-weakened health problems.

You can get the straight skinny on the extent of the cover-up via this book. The chap who originally blew the whistle on this health hazard was Paul Brodeur, the same fellow who eventually was able to convince people about the dangers of asbestos. The government and business approach is the same with magnetic fields as it was with asbestos and cigarettes: deny it, then produce paid scientists to deny it—and eventually to be forced by the public to face the situation. The power companies are still in denial and the public is paying the price through high childhood leukemia deaths, brain tumors, miscarriages, and so on.

The most critical source of these fields in the home are electric blankets, water beds, nearby pole transformers and poor house wiring.

Iraq Retakes Kuwait

How'd you like to see that one in the headlines? I'll be surprised if it doesn't happen—and without the U.S. lifting a finger to stop it. Further, I'll be even more surprised if Iraq doesn't keep right on going on down the old Arabian peninsula, gobbling up Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Oman and points south.

Well, we'd never put up with that sort of nonsense! We'd be right over there lobbing missiles down Baghdad chimneys again, right? Not if Saddam plays it the way I would if I were holding his hand. Ask me how I'd pull this one off.

Glad you asked.

So here's how I'd go about cornering the world's oil if I were sitting in a deep bunker in Baghdad scheming. First I'd invest in a few more tank trucks so I could run more of my oil down to Aqaba via Jordan. Jordan, cut off by the other Arab countries from their old support payments, is in desperate need of the toll money for the use of their highway and port. Remember, Jordan has no natural resources or industries, so they need anything they can get from Iraq.

Instead of buying more food for my people I'd build up a little kitty to send along with some friends of mine when they visit the ex-Soviet countries. They'd be shopping for the best deal we could get on a couple of atomic bombs (also known as nuclear devices).

The next step would be to buy a small suitcase for each of the bombs and smuggle them into the U.S. I'd set up one in downtown Manhattan and the other in Washington, over near the Capitol. Then I'd announce my plans for Kuwait, explaining about the bombs and suggesting that we not hurt each other.

While much of the country might cheer the loss of Washington, which has very few redeeming values, the possible loss of the New York pimps and transvestites might act as a deterrent to our military. While we don't want to lose all that oil, we might not want to lose a couple million people in New York even more. Having lived in New York City for many years, I'd trade it off in a minute for almost anything, but I doubt if our president will know it as well as I and thus be inclined to wimp out.

But what about Europe? What about Germany and France? England? Hey, Bush had to drag them kicking and scratching into the Gulf war, even though we did most of the dirty work. They seem more interested in selling Saddam plutonium processing equipment than bombing him.

Since Saddam probably isn't as unprincipled as I, I'm sure we'll never have to worry about the scenario I outlined. It's always possible that no matter how difficult things get and how hard up the ex-USSR countries are for food and cash that they'll not sell any nukes. How much would you like to bet? Hey, China has nukes too, and they seem to be willing to sell just about anything to get cash, so perhaps we ought to stop needling them about killing all those annoying students. Doesn't what they do to their people, no matter how despicable, come under the heading of an internal matter and therefore is none of our butinsky meddling business?

One more thing I'd like explained is why the Russians haven't stopped building new and bigger nuclear submarines! And why have they stepped up their intelligence operations in America? I thought they were short of cash and were begging for a whopping loan from us to tide them over. Does this mean we're about to lend them money which, in essence, will help them build bigger, better and quieter nuclear submarines? I hate to seem dense about this, so if you can explain what's going on, I'm waiting. In the meanwhile perhaps we shouldn't decommission too many of our submarines. I notice that the Navy had decommissioned the SSN-677, the nuclear attack USS Drum. That was the sub that I was at the helm flying around under the Pacific Ocean a couple of years ago, at around 800 feet under.

Fear

Let's look at this fear thing and see if we can understand it better. People generally fear things they don't understand, right? So let's look at the other side of that coin. Are there any things you understand that you fear? I said fear. I'm not afraid of electricity, I sure as hell respect it. I've gotten knocked on my kiester a couple of times and that's generated a surprising amount of respect. But it's not fear or terror.

Once we take the trouble to find out more about the things that we are afraid of we no longer are afraid. I'm afraid when I'm walking on a New York street at night and a group of black or Hispanic teenagers pass me. I'm afraid because I don't know whether they are dangerous or not and I'm not Jackie Chan. It's the unknown. If I were to take the trouble to get to know them I might no longer be afraid.

The next time fear hits perhaps you can consider that if you understood what you are afraid of you wouldn't be afraid. So, instead of fearing and probably running away or avoiding, try to find out more about what has frightened you—knowing that this will help eliminate your fears.

Religions rule billions of lives through fear. Fear of punishment for sins. Fear of the devil, of hell fire, and so on. I can't fault them for that because it pays off. It pays off in billions of dollars. We have some extremely wealthy religions, all built

on fear. But you know, we haven't a shred of proof that any of these fears are real. Millions of people believing things doesn't make them true, otherwise the sun would still be spinning around the earth and Columbus would have fallen off the edge of the world.

You're afraid of snakes? Read about 'em and learn. Soon you'll be wanting one of your own. I once had a six-foot indigo snake for a pet. He loved keeping warm by wrapping himself around my neck. We got along just fine together. Of course it scared the heck out of salespeople ringing my bell when I'd answer the door with a big snake around my neck. Heh, heh.

Fear, like hate, is destructive to your immune system, and will contribute to making you sick—even kill you. Yet fear, as I've explained, is mostly the result of your ignorance. Make a list of the things you're afraid of and get busy learning more about them. And those you can't turn from fear to respect, do your best to avoid. Like I do walking at night on New York streets.

Starting Education From Scratch

For starters we know our present educational system is failing us. Worse, we know that unless we make some major changes we're going to be sentencing our children and grandchildren to a second class quality of life. Either we turn out the educated and skilled workers needed to do high-tech manufacturing or we're going to continue to see our jobs moving to countries with better educated workers, and our standard of living sliding. And yes, if you've been reading the news, it has been sliding.

Having done a hellacious amount of research on the situation, my next priority is to put everything I've learned together into one big report. Then I have to see if I can figure some way I can get the needed changes started.

Since I'm solution oriented, I'll tend to offer proposed changes, rather than just wringing my hands over what's gone wrong. Unless you've been living the life of a mushroom, you're well acquainted with how bad things are. You must have read, heard or seen on TV reports on how poorly we're educating our children. You may even know that in international studies American children came in next to last of all the countries studied. Even Albanian children did better!

My approach to the educational process is to break it down into child development periods. I'm arbitrarily dividing education into eight age groups. I think you'll see the sense of this as we progress. I think you'll agree that we all tend to learn things differently at different ages. We can't deal with a one-year-old kid the same as we do an adolescent. And ditto someone in their twenties vs. someone in their sixties.

Age #0

Preconception! Yes, the actions of parents even before conception can have a profound effect on the resulting child. Alcohol, nicotine and other drugs have been proven to change both the ovum and the sperm, and no later change is ever going

to repair that damage. Will the result be mental retardation? A physical abnormality? The faulty development of any of thousands of brain's and body's communications systems? Will the child have dyslexia? Attention deficit disorder? Be hyperactive? The medical books are packed with such unexplained problems. But if you're going to go to the expense and around 20 years or so of work bringing up a child, why start with a child that you have made permanently defective in some way?

The safest approach is to eliminate all known poisons that could alter the baby's DNA. My *Secret Guide to Health* discusses these. Such as? Mercury poisoning from dental amalgam, poisons from teeth with root canals, fluorides, chlorine and lead in your drinking water. Growth hormone (rBST) and antibiotics in your meat and milk products. Sugar. Yes, sugar. Immunization shots. Just look at the retarded and deformed children that have resulted from the anthrax inoculations the military made mandatory for our Gulf War veterans.

Age #1

You're probably expecting me to start with kindergarten. No way. By the time kids are five years old around 80% or so of their life's patterns are already fairly firmly set. Nope, we've got to start much earlier. Much, much earlier. Hold your chair and don't laugh—we're going to start with conception. I think you'll agree that I'll make a very good case for this. So let's assign Age #1 to the nine months between conception and birth. As you'll see, this is a surprisingly active educational period of life. As you understand more about the importance of this time, you're going to understand why we need to radically change some motherhood behavior during this critical period of life. For instance, if a mother doesn't get enough of the right foods during the last trimester, that can lower her baby's IQ by 8 to 10 points! Like fish and liver.

Now, before I can help you understand how education takes place during the prenatal months, I have to go back to some fundamentals of all life. I don't want you to have to take my word for the importance of the prenatal period, I want you to understand why this time is so critical. And from that understanding you'll be able to figure out for yourself what changes mothers need to make.

I've explained how all living organisms obey the most fundamental of all laws—self preservation. I explained that all life has a stimulus-response mechanism built in which is designed to warn of possible harm so it can be avoided. Trees have this and respond to danger by generating chemicals to ward off invasions of insects or to fight off other plants. In humans, pain is our warning medium. Pain tells us when the body is in danger. This response works on a very fundamental level, operating through what we consider as instincts. Though we quickly become aware of pain on a conscious level, we realize that by that time we've already reacted to it subconsciously. If we had to wait for the pain message to reach the conscious mind and tell us to take our hand off the damned stove, we'd do a lot of damage. No, the hand jerks off way before we consciously know what hit us.

We learn from this. The next time we see a stove we're suddenly careful and tend not to touch it. This isn't entirely a conscious matter, it's a built-in reaction.

Pain equals the vision, sound and smell of the stove on a subconscious level. Well, this is often a very valuable survival system. But like any system that works automatically, it's often going to be wrong and send false alarms.

On a completely subconscious level the mind equates pain with all perceptics being received at the same time—visual, sonic, and so on. By the time we have stored thousands of these pain incidents the brain is fairly well tied up with neurons dedicated to these pain avoidance equations. I found this out personally when I worked with people under hypnosis, removing these pain equations and, to my surprise, discovered that their IQs were measurably zooming upwards and as a result, and their mental awareness was going higher and higher.

So what's all this got to do with the prenatal period? Well, the avoidance of pain system seems to be so fundamental that it's in operation right from the beginning. So what pain does a fetus experience? The baby gets all its food directly from the mother through the umbilical cord, right? This means the baby is in tune with the mother. When the mother is in fear her system shoots adrenaline into her blood to help her fight or flee. I hope you won't think it surprising that this chemical attack also shocks the baby. The baby records the sounds being heard and equates them to the adrenaline shock. The sounds are recorded, just as they would be on a tape recorder. The baby doesn't understand what words mean, but in later life that word pattern is going to be equated with a shock to the system and the baby is going to subconsciously react negatively.

Now, the next step in this process. If you think of the baby's mind as acting a good deal like a computer you won't be far off. It's a computer far beyond anything we can even hope to build yet, but it does act like a computer in many ways. The baby gradually learns to deal with its environment. It's very comfortable most of the time during the prenatal period. The temperature is perfect. The food is great. And there's the comfort of a sort of spiritual communication with the mother.

Babies are programmed very much like computers in that the early instructions are the foundation upon which later instructions are built. The operating system. If you start with a weak or faulty foundation, no amount of later patches are going to give you the perfection you'd have had without the bad foundation. Make sense? Now do you see why I attach so much importance to what happens during pregnancy?

When mothers don't eat right this permanently affects the child. No amount of good food later on will ever make up for it. When the mother drinks alcohol, this zaps right into the baby. And it's traumatic. This is pain! Is it any wonder that the children of mothers who drink during pregnancy have lower IQs and so many problems later on? And the fact is that we're just beginning to find out how many problems this can generate. We know it affects intelligence and health. Well, the same goes for nicotine. When the mother smokes the nicotine hits the baby like a sledge. Wham! Other stimulants such as caffeine also register as shocks to the fetus. And I don't have to explain how drugs can not just screw up the genetic development of the baby, but set up all sorts of really bad basic programming.

There are other shocks which register with the baby, such as when the mother falls down or is hit in the stomach. All of these shocks are duly recorded, right

along with the sound patterns for later avoidance.

The birth process is enormously traumatic. Families who are aware of the importance of keeping these pain avoidance equations to a minimum insist on the birth being kept as quiet as possible. No talking. No unnecessary sounds. For years doctors scoffed at this silly notion, but recent research has proven how important a quiet birth can be, so we have fewer skeptics now.

You've probably read at how doctors scoffed when Semmelweis tried to get them to wash their hands before an operation. They were absolutely furious with him and took away his license.

Dr. Semmelweis noticed that there were four times as many patient deaths in the doctor-assisted clinics as in the midwife-assisted clinics. He instituted hand washing in his ward, with the result that the deaths of women giving birth dropped from one out of eight to less than one in a hundred. He was driven out of Vienna by the attacks of the other doctors.

Midwife-assisted births are far less traumatic, less painful, and have fewer complications than doctor-assisted hospital births. The result is a healthier, better adjusted and intelligent baby.

You should read the gory details of how the AMA, assisted by the FDA, has fought every development which might cut into their cash flow. Their long war against midwives has resulted in 95% of American births being doctor-assisted, while in Europe 75% of their births are midwife-assisted. Did you know that America is 25th in infant mortality among Western industrial nations? Yep, we're right down there at the bottom. Thanks, AMA.

One of the better books on this subject is John Robbins' *Reclaiming Our Health* (\$15). If I can get you to read this well-researched book you'll finally be over your belief in doctors.

The more we can help women understand the importance to their child of their health, the food they eat, the need to avoid chemical attacks on the baby, and the need for silence when there's a chance the baby might be feeling pain, the better will be the most basic programming of the child.

So how about sex during pregnancy? The baby is going to enjoy this right along with the mother as the pleasure chemicals reach it and the feeling of happiness is shared.

A few people are working on ways of going back under hypnosis and erasing these early pain memories. You can read more about this in *The Holotropic Mind* by Grof (1990 - \$20), if you're interested. The first work in this area was described by Alfred Korzibski in his *Science And Sanity* (1935). I plan to write on the nuts and bolts of how to do the repair job when I have the time. But it's a lot easier and cheaper to be careful and not mess up a child's development during the first nine months, the most basic of all learning periods. I hope this makes sense to you.

There are several excellent books on how to start teaching your child things during this first nine months. And this will pay off by your having a more intelligent and adventurous child. Please read *Prenatal Classroom* and learn how to teach your child around 100 words, to like music, and to stimulate brain growth before birth, resulting in a significantly higher IQ. Not doing this is equivalent to

permanently dumbing down your child. Look for the book in my recommended book list.

Age #2

The second most important educational period is from birth through to about the first birthday. And if you think we're screwing up our children during pregnancy, wait'll I explain what we've been doing to the little darlings after they're born. You're not going to like this.

Let me ask a very basic question. How important is your child to you? How important is it that your child be given every opportunity to grow up to be the best kind of person you can manage? Would you do anything knowingly that would permanently cripple your child? Would you do anything knowingly which would result in your child having a lower IQ? Would you do anything that would tend to have your child become a drug addict? To be an alcoholic? To be a misfit in society? To become a criminal?

What's it worth to you to be fairly sure that your child will grow up to be healthy, intelligent, happy, have a good marriage, and be successful in life? No psychoses? No allergies? If you handle your child's education on every level according to what we know now about how children develop, you'll have a good chance at producing a terrific winner.

Which brings me back to birth, a process which we've managed to louse up almost beyond recognition. What do you imagine happens to the poor kid when you shoot the mother full of drugs so she won't have to feel the pain? Babies need all of the strength they can muster to cope with the birth process. The last thing they need is to be drugged. Midwife-assisted births, usually at home, almost never have any need for drugs. There just is rarely any pain.

Now let's tackle the biggest problem we have with birth, which is what happens immediately after. Think about this for a moment. For thousands of generations children were born and immediately put with their mothers. The child has just spent a few months being intimately close to its mother. It's bad enough to have to get the lungs going and shift to air and breast food, but then to go against a basic genetic instinct by taking the baby away from the mother, it's no wonder babies cry and are traumatized—and to some degree, marked for life.

We recognize the power of instinct in birds, animals, insects, reptiles and so on. So why are we so blind to human instincts? Do we even for a moment deny they exist? When we look at primitive tribes we find that children are always put with their mothers immediately after their birth. Further, they stay with their mothers night and day until they learn to crawl.

The hospital nursery is a cruel, painful, time for babies. It goes against millions of years of instinct. When babies are put with their mothers they don't cry. When they are allowed to stay with their mothers they don't cry.

Allowing babies to stay with their mothers day and night for the first year is going to be even more difficult a change. Our society isn't geared for this. Oh, we're beginning to recognize that mothers should have a few weeks with their

babies. We're seeing moves towards maternal leaves from work. We've got to do more than that.

Just the other day I was watching a PBS program showing how young children are treated in various countries. One of the groups visited was a primitive tribe. Here the babies were kept with the mothers. Mothers carried their babies around with them everywhere. The interesting part was that in this situation none of the babies cried. And as they grew up they didn't fight with other children. The kids all happily lent a hand with their younger siblings whenever needed.

If the whole concept is interesting you'll enjoy reading *The Continuum Concept* by Jean Liedloff (1991 - \$9). The subtitle is, "Allowing human nature to work successfully." You'll see why I recommend that businesses encourage mothers to bring their babies with them to work. It'll make happier mothers and babies.

When we separate babies from their mothers we're going against cons of instinctive behavior. What a great introduction to the outside world! The baby doesn't think, it reacts. It knows something is terribly wrong so it cries. After nine months of being warm and protected by the mother, babies need to feel her next to them. They need to feel her warmth, her voice, her touch. They need to feed when they feel hungry.

Perhaps you've noticed that your body tells you in no uncertain terms when it needs food. If you delay, the message gets more painful. This is self-preservation at work. Babies feel the same thing, only it's a much more powerful urge for them and traumatic when not fulfilled immediately. Pain! And that means more negative programming of this new computer system. Is it any wonder we're such psychological messes a few years later? Is it any wonder we're almost all having to diet—or at least should?

It's going to take some re-education to change our society so it gives babies the best educational start we can. This means understanding how what we do affects babies during pregnancy. And it means changing things so mothers can keep their children with them for the first few months—until they are ready to separate on their own . . . instinctively. Once they're ready they'll start crawling and exploring. Then they'll gradually adjust to being separated from mother and we'll get into Age #3, that time from around the first birthday until their formal education starts in school.

This approach should make sense and appeal to most people, despite the need for changes in our society. It fits in with what we know. And if we can bring it off we're going to have far happier, intelligent and better motivated kids.

At around 8 months you can start teaching your baby to communicate with you using signs. This speeds up the growth of the brain connections for speech, resulting in your baby learning to talk earlier and adding around 10 IQ points for life. Read the book, *Teaching Your Baby to Sign*.

There are some less obvious influences on babies that we'll eventually have to deal with. We can see some of these at work with other animals. You've seen the way schools of fish can change direction instantly. We've seen how people can change when they are in a group. We need to understand more about how mob psychology works. What turns individuals into a lynch mob? Into a cheering or

screaming political group? Into mass hypnotized rock'n'roll groups? Into feeling a group religious experience?

And how do we deal with mental communications which occur on a subconscious level and are thus extremely elusive to study? If I'm encouraged to explain how to repair the mind—how to find these pain avoidance memories and erase them, then we're going to get deeper into the metaphysical. Then we're going to start dealing with life, death, past lives, reincarnation, and other things that are outside our normal Newtonian, Aristotelian everyday scientific (we believe) world.

It's a lot simpler to accept the obvious. The sun comes up every day, so obviously the sun is rotating around the earth. Do you know that there is a fair percentage of Americans who don't understand that the earth circles the sun? When we look at matter we know it's there. We can see it and feel it. Then we go to school and find out that matter is made up of molecules. Molecules are made up of atoms. And atoms are made up of electrical charges all held in place by forces which we don't see, feel or experience in everyday life. Newtonian physics doesn't hold when you get outside of our normal frame of reference. Nor does Aristotelian logic.

Quantum mechanics doesn't make any Newtonian sense at all. We're changing electrons into photons and back. We're splitting photons and suddenly we're defying time. Well, this is where we're getting in our understanding of how the brain-mind-spirit-body work. A book you'll find absolutely fascinating is *The Holographic Universe* by Michael Talbot (1991 \$10). But get a good grip on yourself because you're in for a wild ride—and you'll never be the same again.

As you begin to understand how the mind and body are integrated you'll see where I'm headed when I suggest we investigate how the mind works as a better approach to health care than just treating germs, viruses, and other symptoms. I suspect that for about the same investment it takes to bring one new drug to the market we could prevent at least 90% of sicknesses via tackling the psychological components which have triggered the problems.

When I get some time I'll continue on with my recommendations on Age #3, which will include the day-care and pre-school years. It's during this critical period that around 80-90% of our life patterns and habits are established. It's a lot easier to teach good survival patterns during this period if we start with a solid foundation of learning from conception on through the break with mother—into when we can use language for communication.

Babies And High-Tech

What has all this got to do with high technology? Why should you care one zot about how babies are brought up? Well, I'm trying to solve a problem and, as in most solutions to problems, it's necessary to go back to some basic roots. My aim is to help improve our American quality of life. That's my most basic goal. It's obvious to me that the more skilled our work force in the next century, the better off we'll be. I hope that makes sense as a basic concept. We see advances (and thus lowering costs) in communications and transportation making it practical for low-skilled jobs to be moved to lower wage countries, and we know this is a

process that can't be stopped. We can fight it with rhetoric and tariffs, but marketplace competition will eventually win out. You can't keep imports out with tariffs. Look at the hundreds of billions we're spending trying to keep out drugs. And look at the total failure we've had with this approach. They're cheaper and more available than ever, plus they've generated a whole new generation of criminal groups—our having learned nothing whatever from the liquor prohibition disaster.

Okay, we need higher skilled workers. This means skills in high-tech businesses and manufacturing. And this means better education and motivation. So I envision our getting millions of kids interested in amateur radio as a way to be motivated to learn by having fun. We know from our history that if we get kids interested in hamming early on they almost invariably continue on to be technicians, engineers and scientists. In the '50s an ARRL study showed that 80% of all hams who started in their teens went on to high-tech careers.

So, my approach is to provide an educational system which will attract youngsters to high-tech hobbies such as amateur radio, computers, electronic experimenting, and so on. And, the more I've looked into our educational system, the more I've understood how it starts out at conception, not when kids first enter school. So there you are.

We need to make major changes in our Age #3 educational approach. And we also need to make even greater changes in our Age #4 system, which takes us into adolescence. Hey, we'll get all this into shape eventually—and when we do, we'll not only be a model for the whole world (again), we'll be the leaders in an incredible world market for our educational products. And that's going to be a multi-trillion-dollar market.

High-tech—the pioneering and development of new technologies. The designing, manufacture, and marketing of these new technologies. The sales, operation and service of high-tech equipment. If we don't lead in this, the Asians will. And please remember that we have to work harder just to break even with them since they have an average IQ advantage over us of around 10 points. Or at least they will until we wise up and add the 40 to 50 additional IQ points that we can gain by doing the right things at the right time for our babies. Yes, I'll be writing more about that. Maybe a book.

My shoes were made in China, my TV and other electronic toys in Japan, Taiwan, Singapore, and Hong Kong. I eat three apples a day—Granny Smiths from South Africa. My oranges are from Israel. Grapes from Peru. Cheese from Denmark. My shirts are mainly from Singapore and Taiwan. My suits from Korea and Hong Kong.

If you can give your children even a 10 point IQ advantage through prenatal teaching, they will at least be able to start even with Asian children. And then you will eventually put them in one of the worst school systems in the developed world.

Unless you can help change things. Yes, I have ideas on how to do that.

Good Science—Bad Science.

Have you gotten sucked in on some of the phony science scares? Like the acid

rain baloney? Alar? How about the ozone hole panic or greenhouse effect? Nuclear winter? Since you seem to prefer to elect lawyers with no science background to run our country, our science-ignorant Congress has been throwing billions at one ecoscam after another, urged on by a scientifically illiterate media and public. You should pay more attention to your old Uncle Wayne, who has been poo-pooing these alarums and excursions for years.

At one time we were going to be overpopulated to starvation, bringing on a movement to limit families to two children. Remember zero population growth (ZPG)? And we were going to run out of oil by the end of the century. We were losing our topsoil. Our croplands were being paved over and we'd starve. We were using up our ground water. We're poisoning the oceans. We're killing the whales. Nuclear war would wipe everyone out. The ice age cometh. Doom! And how about that virtually science-free Earth Summit in Rio, followed by another equally science-free in Japan, and the dreaded freon and PCBs? All ecological disaster phony baloney. But very expensive baloney.

We're still being warned about pesticides, non-renewable resources, pollution, genetic engineered plagues, toxic wastes, landfills, and endangered species. Oh yes, and some of our reason-challenged religious fanatics are expecting the end of the world any day now. Check with the Seventh-Day Adventists the next time they come to your door for the exact date. Or read my *Human Extinction Prophecies* book.

Yes, there have been some legitimate environmental concerns, but separating them from the spurious hasn't been one of our governments better accomplishments. In the last 30 years scores of new environmental laws have been enacted, complete with thousands of regulations. The government is spending over \$150 billion this year on environmental regulation. The Environmental Protection Agency's budget has jumped 31% in the last four years and its staff has swelled by 23%. The federal budget for climate change research alone will be \$1.4 billion this year! What a lovely piece of pork that one is! Pork you and I are paying for.

Presumably you're familiar with Veep Al Gore's environmental hysterics. I don't think he's ever seen an environmental scare that he didn't climb aboard and endorse—and this is the joker you won't be able to stop yourself from electing President.

60 Minutes does some fine investigative reporting, but every now and then they screw up seriously—like with the Alar scare and the self-accelerating Audis. Both turned out to be complete hooley, but you'd never know it from watching the program and waiting for an apology.

The really big money in all this is that collected by advocacy groups from concerned citizens, whipped into a frenzy of concern by the media. No amount of failed prophecies seems to discourage people from taking the next cry of doom seriously and sending checks.

Yes, some species are becoming extinct—just as millions have in the past. That's part of the survival of the fittest deal, which we accept as a rule of nature (God?). I haven't any problem with our trying to protect species which man is decimating, as long as we don't have the government doing it at our expense. The

government, and that mainly means Congress, has an unblemished record of screwing up everything it does and charging us a bundle to do it.

The one thing nobody has figured out yet is how to stop us from re-electing the same crooks to Congress again and again. You're the one who voted in the crook who is wasting your money and screwing up your country for you.

Do you honestly believe that your Congressman knows better how to spend your money than you do?

Can anything be done about this mess? Of course, and it's not all that complicated. My recommendation is to get your state legislature to pass a law to the effect that any representative or senator from your state may not comment or vote on any legislation where he or she has a conflict of interest. A conflict would arise if any money or other benefits were received directly or indirectly from any party with an interest in said legislation. If other states then passed similar laws this would cut off PAC and lobbying money, throwing tens of thousands of lobbyists out of work. It would give our politicians less money to spend on dirty TV ads and maybe force them to come up with some proposed solutions to our problems instead of spending their campaigns astride fences.

The media are in love with doom and gloom. Good news does not sell papers, is the old and true saw, so the worse they can make things appear, the more papers they'll sell, and the higher the TV ratings. But in view of the almost complete failure to happen of every scientific disaster we've been warned about, is there any way I can at least get you to be skeptical the next time some scientifically ignorant journalist cries wolf? And that, unfortunately includes some scientists who should know a lot better, such as ex-astronomer Carl Sagan and his nuclear winter campaign.

If you'd like to do some homework on this subject you could do worse than read *Ecoscam* by Ronald Bailey; St. Martin's Press, 1993; 228p. Another book you'll enjoy is *Environmental Overkill* by Dixie Lee Ray; Regnery Gateway, 1993.

Is Your Home Making You Sick?

The odds, oddly enough, are that your home is helping to make you sick, and not in any way you'd probably guess. No, I'm not talking about power-line magnetic radiation, though that's bad enough.

One of the books I came across at the Tesla Society science conference in Colorado Springs is a corker. It's *Light, Medicine of the Future*, by Jacob Liberman. Light? Good grief, what's Wayne into now?

Okay, before I get into a review of the book, follow me on this. Unless you've been intellectually stunted by religious fundamentalism, you're aware that we humans are believed to be the result of several million years of evolution. And that means that we've been designed to operate within the parameters of our world. We find, when we send people into space, that their bodies don't do well at all. We're designed to operate with one G of gravity. Further, we've evolved living in a world with a strong magnetic field—one which changes continuously as a result of varying radiation from the sun and the influence of the moon. We're also being impacted by solar radiation, including light, as well as a wide range of other

frequencies from the infra-red up through the ultra-violet. And that light has a spectrum that we've evolved in which is important to us. You take that away, or even change it a little, and there's hell to pay. And we're paying for it with sickness and bad dispositions.

Now, scientists have been experimenting with light and their findings are scary. Maybe Edison didn't do us as much of a favor as we thought. It's turning out that we get a lot more out of sunlight that we suspected. One of the more damaging things we've done to ourselves is invent window glass and then (ugh!) sun-glasses. Another is to invent artificial lighting which doesn't give us nearly the same light spectrum as the sun.

So here we are living and working in fluorescent and incandescent light, and it looks as if we're suffering a wide variety of illnesses as a result. The human immune system, given a decent break, is able to beat almost any germ or virus. But we've been crippling our immune system in a number of ways—and a big one is via cutting off the light our eyes and bodies need—the light our eyes and bodies have been designed to use through tens of thousands of generations of evolution.

A small group of researchers has been testing different colors of lights on plants, animals, and lately on humans. You can set up your own experiments at home and do your own research. It's simple. All it takes are some beans and patience. Grow some in the sun—and I don't mean behind a glass window. Grow others with the sun they get through a glass window. Try some under different colors of fluorescent lamps. Try some with the full-spectrum fluorescent lamps. And don't forget to find out what happens when you use incandescent lamps.

This whole business got started when a chap named Ott got involved with the stop-motion photography of plants. He had to light them properly and keep them in a closed box so they wouldn't be blown by the wind. Well, he sure ran into all kinds of problems. The darned things refused to grow right. He eventually discovered it all had to do with the lights he was using. Hmm, if light makes that much difference for plants, what about animals? He went on to test different light colors with mice and rats, and then larger animals. It turned out to make an amazing difference. I can't give you all the details here, but you'll find his story most fascinating. It's all in his book, *Health and Light* by John Ott (1973-\$10).

Ott's pioneering work has been carried on by Liberman. In his book you'll read about some amazing cancer cures, the curing of a wide variety of illnesses, of hyperactivity in kids, and so on. You'll read about how introducing the sunlight spectrum of light can completely change the way people work in offices and factories, and the way classrooms work. You'll also read about the efforts of a small group of scientists who have been fighting our scientific bureaucracy for years, trying to get their work published and recognized.

I first read about this research many years ago, so I've always made sure I had full spectrum lights in my publishing offices.

Scientific research is a big business these days, with a third of the funds coming from the government. The allotment of research funds lies mainly in the hands of a few businessmen, who are careful not to upset any established businesses. But the problems we have with our scientific research system is something else. I've

been reading some excellent books on that. The bottom line is that there are a whole bunch of fields that science should be exploring, but which those controlling the money refuse to acknowledge. I'll have to review *Impure Science* by Robert Bell, an excellent recent book on this topic. What's happening is a disgrace.

So start growing some beans and see for yourself what an incredible influence the sun's spectrum of light has on life. And don't try to tell me that, well, those are plants and we're different. Like hell we are. When you graduate to mice under different colors of light, you'll see that what's happened to your beans is also happening to your mice. And the book explains about rabbits, chinchillas, and so on, right on up to and including people.

While you're growing those beans, try some in front of your TV set and see what the radiation from that monster time waster is doing to the things around it—like you and your kids. Even try some in the next room, 15 feet or so away behind the set. Beans can tell you more than all but the most sophisticated lab instruments.

You'll read about endless cancers being cured, arthritis, etc. How children living under fluorescent lights have cavities, attention deficits, hyperactivity, poor classroom behavior, poor grades, and learning disabilities. Within weeks of installing full-spectrum lights these problems begin to disappear. It's almost enough to make you think.

They tested hamsters with identical diets under cool-white and full-spectrum fluorescent lights and found they had ten times as many cavities under the white lights. Chickens raised under full-spectrum lights are larger, healthier, live twice as long, lay more eggs, and their eggs have 25% less cholesterol.

It turns out that sunbathing causes less skin cancer, not more, despite all the phony-baloney you've been seeing lately—though I suppose one can go too far with it and cause trouble.

I had a little spare time in San Francisco recently, so I visited Alcatraz—where they kept the most incorrigible prisoners in tiny cells with no direct sunlight. And, when they caused trouble they put them in "The Hole" where they had no light at all. Talk about doing things in bass-ackwards. This confirmed the validity of my proposal for cutting the cost of prisons to almost zero—one which would encourage the prisoners to be outside in the sun, tending to their gardens.

Is there a connection between the growing crime rate, street gangs, riots, the increase in divorce, the troubles we're having with children, and even the incivility we see growing everywhere, and what we're doing to ourselves with artificial light and window glass which prevents some critically important light frequencies from reaching us? Plus several hours of TV radiation every day? How'd you like to try and live with someone who has their TV on every night all night, plus most daylight hours too? It can be hell on wheels trying to deal with the nasty disposition that results.

I guarantee you'll be installing full-spectrum lights in your home, and in your office after reading this book. And you'll be working to get your local schools to change too. I'm convinced that we could substantially lower our health care costs just by letting more sun reach our eyes and skin.

When you do your bean-growing and mice or rat experiments, be sure to docu-

ment your work with pictures. If you can set up a video camera for stop-motion photography you'll have a great record, but plain photos will tell the story.

"But what about skin cancer," I hear you whining. Researchers have shown, as I've reported, that rats fed the standard American diet, when compared with a control group fed raw food, with both exposed to the same amount of sunlight, get skin cancer. Those eating raw food didn't. None.

Better Youngsters

My search for a way to generate more young hams has taken a strange turn. My original goals were to (a) provide a solid excuse for our hobby to be kept alive, despite the pressures for our valuable spectrum by rapidly expanding commercial interests and (b) help provide the high-tech work force our country is going to need to compete against the other industrial countries in the next century.

If we're going to do this we have to get kids interested in hamming. This brought me head-to-head with the mess our schools are in. And that, in turn, got me to reading about our educational system. I've found that I'm not alone in criticizing our school system.

Now, before I get really started on how lousy our schools are, let's just consider what you might do if you were interested in having the very best child or grandchild you could. First, let's talk about what can go wrong, and then we can discuss how to fix the situation. I'm presuming, of course, that you might have a shred of interest in giving your children the best start in life that you can. Maybe you don't give a damn. Many parents obviously don't.

By the time your kids are seven the largest part of their characters will have already been formed. The child at seven won't be very different fundamentally from the teenager at 15, or the grown-up at 30.

Your child starts with the sperm and the ova. Anything you do to screw up your DNA before conception is going to affect your kid, and not positively. If you mess your sperm up enough, there'll be a miscarriage. But a lesser disturbance of the DNA message will just burden your child with problems. There may be health, behavioral, or even cosmetic problems.

So what can we do to give our kids the best possible start? Well, research has shown that there are a lot of things that affect our sperm. There are drugs such as caffeine, nicotine and alcohol. There are magnetic fields such as we find with electric blankets or living near power lines or power sub-stations. There are poisons such as mercury, silver, and nickel, which we can get from amalgam fillings in our teeth. Most of us already know about crack babies, and terrible problems from cocaine, pot, and the hard stuff.

So let's say that you and your wife go out of your way to give your kid the best start you can. Then comes birth. I've got to get you to read *The Continuum Concept* by Liedloff. That'll keep you from letting the hospital put your baby in their nursery. This is a wonderful guidebook for the first year of life, as I mentioned earlier.

Next comes the pre-school era from one to five. This is a time of incredibly rapid learning. It's a wonderful time to teach babies several languages, if you have

a way to continue and develop their use later on. Use it or lose it.

Unfortunately, even if we've done everything the best we can until we send them to public school, this is when we will permanently screw up the rest of their lives. I hope I can get you to get the book by John Gatto, the New York State Teacher Of The Year, *Dumbing Us Down, The Hidden Curriculum of Compulsory Schooling*. It's inexpensive and a humdinger. Of course, since you are an alumni of this school system, the chances are great that you do not have any interest in reading books. Do you know that the average American schoolteacher only reads one book a year. And then, even if you do read Gatto's book and get all upset when you find out what's been going on in schools, you have been so conditioned by your own school experience so the odds are that you have been made into a gutless wimp and won't have the initiative to even try and do anything about it.

Heck, I've discussed the major problems facing our society and proposed inexpensive, creative solutions to them in my *Declare War* book. Several thousand people have bought it, yet I've seen no movement to try and implement *any* of my proposals. "It can't be done. It's hopeless." Until I read Gatto's book I hadn't realized why I was getting verbal and written support, but not seeing any sign of people actually doing anything.

I was around eleven when it finally dawned on me that kids had no more rights than slaves. By law I had to go to school. The only rights I had in school were those the authorities let me have, and they have been backed up by the Supreme Court in this. I was forced to comply by the use of embarrassment and humiliation. You do nothing unless the teacher tells you to—which stifles thinking and makes you dependent on the teacher. I see this pattern in most of the youngsters I've hired, who are unable to think for themselves. They sit and wait until they're told what to do. They are unable to plan work. They've always been stopped before finishing something by the bell, so they're not familiar with the concept of completing work.

Gatto says, "It is the great triumph of compulsory government monopoly mass-schooling that among even the best of my fellow teachers, and among even the best of my students' parents, only a small number can imagine a different way to do things. Only a few lifetimes ago things were very different in the United States. Originality and variety were common currency; our freedom from regimentation made us the miracle of the world; social-class boundaries were relatively easy to cross; our citizenry was marvelously confident, inventive, and able to do much for themselves independently, and to think for themselves."

Gatto points out that it only takes about one hundred hours for a person to learn to read, write and do arithmetic, as long as they're willing to learn. From then on they can teach themselves. "Schooling, through its hidden curriculum, prevents effective personality development. Indeed, without exploiting the fearfulness, selfishness, and inexperience of children, our schools could not survive at all, nor could I as a certified teacher. Nobody survives the curriculum completely unscathed, not even the instructors. The method is deeply and profoundly anti-educational. No tinkering will fix it—don't be fooled into thinking that good curriculum or good equipment or good teachers are critical determinants of your son's or

daughter's education."

He points out that before television children had enough time to themselves to learn about self-motivation, perseverance, self-reliance, courage, dignity, and love. Now kids, on the average, spend 55 hours a week in front of the TV. That's one-third of their time. Add to that the stresses of a two-income or single-parent family, and our kids have too little time to learn to become human.

Is it any wonder that our engineering universities are running out of potential students, and are having to continuously lower their admission standards? Only 7% of the high school graduates in America have enough math and science background to be accepted by an engineering college. The colleges have responded by turning to foreign students. That's great for other countries, but it sure leaves ours in a fix. Here we are heading into a high-tech future and we're turning out fewer and fewer American engineers, technicians and scientists.

The time was, 60 years ago, that youngsters wanted to be hams so badly that they'd put up with learning the code as a barrier. I did, even though I hated being forced to do something which did not make sense to me even then. Very few of the kids these days have the passion to surmount obstacles, so we've instituted the no-code license. Well, we've been lowering the standards for school grades in order to get our kids through school, which is the same thing. They've even had to lower the SATs because our kid's scores have dropped so much. Now I see some hams pleading that we lower the technical exam standards so kids won't have to memorize so much to get a ham license.

There may be some American schools that are pretty good. I've read about a few. But most of the better educated children today are being schooled at home by their parents. Maybe you've read about it in *Newsweek*.

Home schooling will be a lot simpler once we have a good video educational series parents can use. These would use top-notch performers, plenty of graphics, and be fun to watch. PBS has been producing some superb educational videos. Now we need to have them to cover everything being taught in the K-12 years, plus everything that should be being taught. And also plus everything kids might want to learn, but which isn't being taught. We need thousands of these videos.

We'll still need schools to provide the hardware and facilities to teach skills. You can teach a lot about driving with a simulator, but then you need a car. Ditto flight simulators, etc. You can't lean to juggle with a simulator, or to throw a boomerang. Or do glass blowing.

College? There may be some that are okay, but if you read the books on education you'll find that most aren't much good. Most of the "teaching" is done by student instructors. Get a copy of Thomas Sowell's *Inside American Education*, 1993, Free Press, \$25.

If you learn much about nutrition you won't let your kids near a McDonalds. Granted, it's difficult to get the facts on nutrition. The field is overgrown with fads and scams. But if you want to raise healthy, happy, intelligent children, you'd better learn.

Though it's far from perfect, the best school I've found so far is the Sudbury Valley School in Framingham, Mass. Here's a school that accepts children from 4

through 20. It has *no* curriculum! No classrooms. No tests. No grades. The kids learn what they want, when they want, and if they want. The results are spectacular. I've read eight books about the school and visited it personally. It turns out that kids, if given the opportunity, love to learn and run circles around those forced to take courses. My *Secret Guide to Wisdom* reviews the books about the school and explains where to get them. I wonder what I might have been like and accomplished in life if I'd been able to go to a school like that.

Tackling The Deficit

Let's say that you buy a house and find an old painting in the attic. You take it down to a local antique shop and they give you \$100 for it. Wow! Found money! Then you read in the paper that the store has sold it for \$7 million. Would you be upset? Remember, you got what you thought was a good price for it.

Well, there's this 1872 law on the books saying Uncle Sam has to sell land for \$2.50 an acre. One parcel of 17,000 acres they sold recently for \$42,500 was resold a few days later for \$37 million. Did that make Uncle mad enough to change the law? Har de har. Some of the \$2.50 parcels of land are near the gambling casinos in Las Vegas and have appraised values up to \$47 million.

Nearer to our hearts is the incredible Uncle Sam (and that means us taxpayers, buddy) giveaway of radio frequencies. We're giving away our radio and TV channels for free, even though the users are making billions using them. Ditto cellular telephone channels, and so on. Isn't it about time we started getting a piece of the action back from these humongous industries which are using our property to make money? Recent FCC auctions of spectrum have brought in billions, but that doesn't change the free ride our radio and TV stations are getting. And the FCC should be leasing frequencies, not selling them. This is a non-renewable resource.

If someone set up shop on your front lawn and started selling things, wouldn't you at least expect a cut of the action? When you open a store in a shopping mall you have to agree to pay a percentage of your sales to the mall in exchange for the location. Is there any reason we shouldn't ask the commercial radio and TV users to pay maybe 10% of their revenues for the use of our property? That would add a few billion to the Treasury. The estimate is that we're giving away \$32 billion just for the cellular channels.

Of course, until you get Congress to change, all more revenues will mean is more spending. It won't cut our taxes one nickel. There are tons of ways for Congress to cut spending, but none of them are yet deemed necessary. What most people don't understand is that no one is actually running the government. Congress makes laws and the President handles foreign policy and is Commander in Chief of the military. But there's no one minding the store, so we see endless bureaucratic waste, with no easy way to curb it.

Waste? How about \$4.9 billion (with a B) a year for outside consultants for government bureaus? That's according to the Government Accounting Office. How about \$1.5 billion for Congressional staffs? We could cut \$30 billion if we ended farm subsidies, and that doesn't count how much we'd save on lower food prices

which are now being supported. Then, there are failed farm loans, where we've donated about \$10 billion to the farmers. We might want to cut down on the \$22 billion in food stamps too. Hmm, could we make it so the stamps would only be valid for buying raw food?

There are some fascinating recent books which go into the gory details on how Congress is screwing us, but a warning—they might possibly make you mad. They could even put a strain on your twelve to sixteen years of conditioning in our school system to not cause trouble and to shut the hell up and do as you're damned well told. I know I almost got mad. Worse, it almost made me think!

One of the most amusing books on government waste is O'Rourke's *Parliament of Whores*. P.J. shows how Congress could quickly cut \$337 billion off the budget, without even getting to the small, half-billion-dollar, items. Then there's Gross' *Government Racket—Washington Waste From A to Z*. And if that doesn't hold you, read Kelly's *Adventures In Porkland—How Washington Wastes Your Money and Why They Won't Stop*. These are just books on the subject. There's nothing new about egregious waste in Washington. I've got stacks of books going back ten, twenty and thirty years, all describing the waste—and nothing has ever come of it—or changed.

The probability is high that nothing will change this time, except that the deficit and taxes will continue to rise and the government's percentage of your pay check will continue to grow.

Continuing Unemployment

I see they're extending the unemployment benefits because people aren't finding jobs. I think I know what's wrong. I've talked with some local businessmen and find they're having the same problem I am. They need more people. They're desperate for more people. But the job applicants they're getting just aren't what they need.

What's happened in New Hampshire, and all around the country, is that larger firms have been laying off their high priced mid-management staffers. These people have been used to making \$50,000 and up a year, but having worked in mid-management, they've little experience or confidence in making decisions. What the smaller businesses need are people who can start at around \$20,000 and work their way up by generating sales. Someone who's geared to making \$50,000 has the wrong house, car, clothes, outlook, work habits, eats at the wrong restaurants, and so forth. Worse, they're used to that and are not much interested in settling for a crummy \$20,000 lifestyle. So the job market is glutted with over-priced, under-trained people. Meanwhile small businesses which need more help aren't able to find anybody they can hire. There just aren't many unemployed who can satisfy the needs of small businesses.

The Ugly Americans

No, we don't have a complete lock on being ugly, but we sure are way out

ahead of whoever is in second place. The successful effort by some American ham operators to chase His Majesty King Hussein JY1, the most famous ham in the world, off our bands with catcalls and name-calling is one of which all Americans can be proud.

One does not have to visit very many countries to find out what kind of reputation Americans have. The lack of consideration American ham operators exhibit in fighting to make a contact with a new country is something they see in most American tourists too. They claim we make up in arrogance what we lack in education and culture.

We tend to come across as unintelligent, but it isn't that. I'm convinced it's mostly our educational system. Indeed, if you've taken the time to read about IQ and IQ tests you know that (a) Asians have about a 10-point lead on us in IQ, and that (b) American blacks tend to have a 15-point deficit. You also know that (c) few journalists have bothered to acquaint themselves with the well-documented facts before writing on this emotionally-charged subject.

Alas, there's far too little correlation between having brains and using them. A computer is pretty useless when some of the keys are broken and the programs have too little data with which to work. Well, the same goes for our brains. If we load them down with garbage, it's the old computer cliché: garbage in = garbage out.

So here we are with an educational system dumping garbage into little minds. We make up for that by virtually cutting off all intelligent communication with our kids, trusting them to learn how to interact with people via what they're watching on TV. Perhaps we deserve what we get.

No, I don't agree with King Hussein's support of Saddam. But I understand the fix he's in, with a large part of his people being Palestinians and being sucked in by Saddam's propaganda—plus a bunch of wishful thinking. I doubt any of us would have done as well as His Majesty under the circumstances. He's treading a tightrope over a tinder box, to coin a combo-cliché.

Of course I'm critical of HM's getting into this fix. I think he could have avoided it. He's in trouble for the same reason we are—he's allowed a really terrible educational system to develop. I know you're going to find this difficult to believe, but Jordanian kids are even stupider than American kids, and it's got nothing to do with their basic intelligence. Our kids come out next to the worst in surveys. Only the Jordanian kids have managed to beat us out of last place in international educational tests.

His Majesty has done a lot of good things for Jordan. But he's been so involved with Mideast politics that he's let some very important things slip through the cracks. In addition to re-inventing the Jordanian educational system, he also needs to put some effort into eliminating graft as a means of getting rich and put more emphasis on rewarding people who are working hard to improve the business climate.

He had a wonderful opportunity to provide leadership and help to the Palestinians in Israel by providing educational programs in Arabic on his TV stations and beaming 'em into nearby Israel. During the Intefada the Israelis closed the Palestinian schools. This was a monumentally stupid approach. It's ignorance that's

Israel's main enemy in that part of the world. About the only benefit to ignorance anywhere is the ability it provides to those with an education to take advantage of the ignorant.

Jordan has no natural resources of value, only its people. Thus the more His Majesty invests in his people's education, the richer his country will be, and the better the legacy he will leave.

Several years ago I tried to convince HM of this, pointing out the potential Jordan had to become the educational center for the whole Arab world. Once they started broadcasting educational programs on TV they could also package them on videotape and easily repay the production costs. What courses? I had in mind everything from pre-school on through to Ph.D. graduate courses. I had in mind courses helping people to learn special skills. Engineering, architecture, business, ecology, nutrition, astronomy, medicine, and so on. No, many of these won't eliminate the need for a live teacher, but they would make it possible for live teachers to reach a much wider range of pupils.

This approach to teaching will even work well with cooperative learning, where students work in teams and teachers are cheerleaders instead of instructors. This is a relatively new approach to teaching which is winning converts all around the world. I've covered this in my past editorials, so I won't go into detail here on how it works.

Hams, If You Hear HM . . .

Tell him Wayne will be glad to come over and help get his educational system out of the cellar. I haven't visited Jordan in over ten years, so it's about time I wandered over that way. Jordan is ideally located to help eventually solve the Israeli-Arab mess, as well as to stop the move to Muslim fundamentalism which is even a greater danger in the long run. All of these problems can be solved with education. But then, that holds for all the rest of the world's problems too. Including ours.

There's no other investment that pays off nearly as well as one in education.

Breast Cancer

A reader who, for some perverse reason, enjoyed my editorial on bioelectricity, wrote to say that while he was visiting England a few years ago the BBC broadcast a program showing a breast cancer treatment in Sweden where they put a probe (needle) in the middle of the cancer with +12 volts on it and ringed the cancer with -12v probes. The result after a short application of the voltage was a quick cure.

You'll learn more about this sort of thing in the Becker books I've recommended.

I'm reminded of Michael Crichton's book, *Travels*, where he pointed out that radical mastectomy for breast cancer is an example of superstitious behavior in that there is no scientific evidence that there are any benefits. Except perhaps to the doctors and hospitals, who reap millions. Mike was a doctor before he got into writing and directing. You'll enjoy this \$4.95 pocketbook. Look for it.

Loony Tunes.....

That's the answer some scientists have used to ridicule others for continuing to research the cold fusion phenomenon. Many areas of research are cut off from any significant funding by the Loony-Tune derision. Of course there's nothing new about this, as I've explained before. The Wright Brothers were ridiculed as liars for several years after their maiden flight. It was so bad that they left America and went to France, where their work was appreciated. The same thing Pons and Fleischmann did.

There are so many areas that scientists should be researching, but are prevented by ridicule, that if we are ever able to overcome that reaction by the pathological skeptical, we'll be able to enjoy more progress in understanding the world and life than anything we've seen in the past.

There are so many "crazy" things that science has ignored that I can only list some of the major ones that come to mind. I've read enough books to convince me that we need to find out a lot more about death, reincarnation, the spirit world, psychics, psychic healing, clairvoyance, fortune telling, psychometry, predicting the future, UFOs, UFO contactees, auras, spoon bending, prayer, communications between and with plants, dental amalgam, vitamins, light, bioelectromagnetism, electromagnetic fields and health, mob psychology, magnetism, communications with extraterrestrials, near death experiences, out of body experiences, mind reading, limb regeneration, light and health, all that missing dark matter, serendipity, coincidences, past lives, acupuncture, herbal medicine, homeopathy, chiropractic, the placebo effect, music and health, fire walking, speed healing, psychokinesis, long delayed radio echoes, morphic resonance, and so on. How do Ouija boards work? How about automatic writing? How can yogis control their heart rate, body temperature, blood flow, and so on? How can dowsing work so dependably? Oh, you haven't read any of the books on dowsing?

As I've mentioned, you can become a research scientist in your own home with nothing more than a bunch of beans and some pots to grow them in. You can experiment with the effects on their growth of being exposed to either the north or south pole of a magnet, exposed to different colors of light, to ac fields, to radio fields, and even to prayer. Yes, I know it looks stupid to pray to a bean, but wait'll you see what it can do! Try some beans up near your linear amplifier, with some at a distance as a control. And some near your TV set.

Prayer effective? Maybe you should spring \$10 for *Miracles In The Making* by Robert Miller, subtitled, "Scientific evidence for the effectiveness of prayer."

By the time we've opened up most of the fields I've mentioned we're going to know a lot more about our world, about life, and even maybe begin to understand more about God.

One nice thing about quantum mechanics was that it knocked the stuffing out of the old guard scientists. Most reacted by refusing to accept it and ridiculing those that did. I've told you Max Planck's response to that. And sure enough, the old-timers gradually died off, taking their refusal to believe in quantum theory to

their graves.

Perhaps, without our need for ever more complex and expensive military weapons, we'll be able to devote more money to non-military research and development. The latest figures I've seen have put the American overall scientific budget at about 80% military oriented. That stinks. How much more technology do we need to butt into countries where we have no strategic interests? There are dozens of countries all around the world where our media will be pushing us to send in our military for humanitarian reasons. Well, atrocities sell papers and build TV ratings, plus they give Congress an excuse to keep up their military pork spending. Let me know when you think you are getting tired of being manipulated by the media.

The time was when hams led the communications industry in the development of new technologies. We pioneered FM. We pioneered NBFM, SSB, SSTV, and repeaters. We even pioneered TV. Some of the early commercial TV people had cut their teeth in an amateur TV studio in Long Island City. When I worked as an engineer and then as chief cameraman at WPIX (channel 11) in New York back in 1948 several of the people working with me were alumni of the Long Island studio.

There are many areas wide open for just about anyone with an interest to research and pioneer, once we stop being scared off by the commercial research scientists. We have an enormous advantage over them in that they know that when they tackle a project they're better damned well come up with a positive result. It's a vicious world out there for scientists. Amateurs are gambling their own time and money. This is why virtually all of the major new breakthroughs in technology have been made by amateurs. When we win we're heroes. When we miss, we're the only ones who need know about it. And we're not under any publish or perish threat.

I'm Proud To Be An American!

Just look at everything we have to be proud of. We all know that America is the greatest country in the world. Love it or leave it, right? Well, we all love America. And we are justly proud of a country which used to be the car capital of the world. Which used to be by far number one in electronics and high-tech.

Well, we're still number one in a great many ways and we shouldn't forget it! We have one of the most corrupt governments in the world. We have one of the most expensive and least effective school systems in the world. We have one of the most expensive health care systems in the world. We have some of the most corrupt unions in the world. We have the worst crime problem of any country in the world. We have more murders per capita than any other country. We have more racial strife and bigotry. We have one of the worst drug problems in the world. We have more lawyers and lawsuits per capita than any other country. We have the highest federal deficit in the world. We have the worst trade deficit in the world. We have the most homeless in the world. We have the most dangerous cities in the world. We have the best music in the world, but of course, 83% of our music comes from

foreign-owned companies (mostly Japanese). We have more people in prison per capita than any other country. We have the wealthiest organized criminal groups in the world. We have more employees in government than in manufacturing. And we're world-class when it comes to encouraging entrepreneurs—to tap our government via HUD, food stamps, and endless health care scams, all dutifully reported on our exposé TV shows.

We can well be proud of our street gangs, our riots, our welfare system, our decaying cities caused by rent control, our polluted rivers, our radioactive and industrial waste record, black family disintegration, smog and air pollution, the IRS, Bill and Hillary, our obscene music lyrics, guns in schools, vapid sitcoms, illegal immigrants, our foreign aid program, our lobbyists in Washington and all state capitols, our porno industry, our military procurement system, our banking mess, our savings and loan mess, our tobacco farmer subsidies, corruption on Wall Street, NASA's monumental inefficiency, our eager acceptance of eco-scams—you continue the list please.

Rome had its circuses, with Christians fighting lions and each other. We have TV so we can gawk at mayhem in Bosnia and Somalia, so we can spend our days enjoying important things like a severed penis, an attacked skater, our Bureau of Firearms killing a dangerous colony of religious nuts, and more religious nuts fighting or defending abortion. We relish every murder in the news, and then turn to crime shows for more. We shine our media spotlight on any protest group. We fan the flames of sensitivity. We're sensitive to women, to homosexuals, to the "disadvantaged," to blacks, to the poor, to the short, the fat (so don't eat so damned much, you fat slob), the homeless, the lunatics, and so on.

I'm proud of our choice of presidents. Of Lyndon Johnson who so enthusiastically pursued the expensive, pointless, and lost war in Vietnam and launched the long, expensive and lost war on poverty. Of Nixon, who insisted he was not a crook. Of Ford, who gave us lots of laughs. Of Carter, who gave us hyper-inflation. Of Reagan, who gave us the movie star president we'd always dreamed of. Of Bush who gave us—gave us? Oh yes, of Bush, who finally fed us up with both the Democratic and Republican parties, forcing us to turn to, ugh, Ross Perot—who then crumbled under the weight.

And most of all, I'm truly proud of my fellow Americans, who are able to stomach all this corruption and waste with barely a whimper. I'm proud of how our factory production school system has changed what was once a fiercely proud nation into a nation of wimps. I'm enjoying the spectacle of a people trying to enact a constitutional change to limit terms—please stop me from endlessly re-electing my crook. And another to balance the budget—please stop me from letting my representatives spend my children's money. I'm proud of our stomach for congressional pork.

What other country would allow pedophile (man-boy love) groups to parade? Would provide police protection for hate groups to parade? Would listen by the millions for hours a day to Rush Limbaugh, Howard Stern, and G. Gordon Liddy? What other country would watch Donahue, Oprah, and Geraldo on TV every day exploiting sickos?

I hope you are as proud to be an American as I. I'm proud of the National Rifle Association and the American Association of Retired Persons for their effective lobbying, no matter what it is doing to our quality of life. Do you know that we have the most corrupt newsstand circulation system in the world? And the most corrupt music industry too? When it comes to superlatives, we've got most of 'em cornered.

Now, if you happen to be a trouble-maker and less of a Pollyanna than I, you might look at the downside of some of the superlatives I've listed. Yes, the Mafia is ruthless and into hundreds of businesses, but by golly, it works! It works fabulously. The average Mafioso makes well over a million a year, and what spells success more in America than making big money?

When we heard that Perot was a multi-billionaire millions wanted him for president, and never mind some screws that seemed to be loose. Maybe we'll run Bill Gates next time. Bill, who I happen to know personally, also has some screws loose, but the recent media campaign to make him a household word should successfully hide those blemishes.

But even if someone were to actually get upset over the negative aspects of the things I've mentioned, we're all on this big train going a hundred miles an hour toward hell and there's nothing any of us can do to change things. Right?

Wrong, actually. I've got a challenge for you. Let's see how creative you are. What is one thing that you could do which could change almost everything many probably clinically depressed people see as negatives? Let me make that even more of a challenge. What is one thing you could do which would take an average of about 12-seconds a day and which would inevitably change the welfare system, the social security mess, the deficit, crime, crowded prisons, the drug war, foreign aid waste, unemployment, housing values, lower taxes, and so on?

Any takers?

Now, if you look back over the list, you'll see that virtually every outstanding misery in our country comes down to being caused or encouraged by the government. The government *you* elected and are paying for.

Is the situation hopeless? Yes, unless *you* change. Look, your politicians aren't going to change by themselves. It isn't going to be easy to change them—but it actually can be done. Here's a scenario for you to think about. Let's suppose that no matter how good an elected politician seems to be doing his job, that without fail he is replaced in the next election by someone new. This would destroy the congressional seniority committee system, which lies at the heart of most of our problems. Many congressional freshmen come in hoping to make changes. It doesn't take them long to learn that they either play ball or they'll get zip. No committee appointments worth spit. No pork. Nil.

Never, ever, re-elect any politician. If we keep flushing the toilet long enough we'll finally begin to see clean water in the bowl. One term. Period. Next! I'd love to see NRA bumper stickers all over the country. Never Re-elect Anyone.

Our founding fathers expected civic-minded businessmen to volunteer for Congress, and then to go back to their businesses. Instead, we've built a cadre of ex-lawyer political professionals who will do what it takes to keep their jobs.

Progress.

So here we are in 1996. And here I am using a Macintosh PowerBook for most of my work. And here I am without a simple program to keep track of and display the sales of my enterprises. This is ridiculous!

The first practical microcomputer was the Radio Shack TRS-80, which debuted in August 1977, just two years after the first microcomputer kit was announced. The first was the MITS Altair 8800, but that lacked a few things. It came in kit form and had no operating software at all. A few months later Bill Gates showed up at MITS in Albuquerque with a jury-rigged BASIC program. The way I recall it, he'd written a BASIC interpreter for the 8008 chip as an exercise in his computer course at Harvard. When the Altair came along, desperately needing something to make it do more than be an expensive paperweight, he cobbled his interpreter so it would work on the 8080 chip, left school, and went to work for MITS. He's doing fairly well.

Commodore came out with a PET microcomputer in around March 1977, but it had a stupid square keyboard, and a marketing plan designed to screw any dealers dumb enough to be sucked into trying to sell it. My recollection is that Jack Tramiel, the president, set up his own separate mail order firm, Contemporary Marketing, in Bensenville, out near Chicago, just to sell the PETs. He refused to let Commodore run any ads for the computer, with only his mail order firm advertising. I visited the factory in California where I was told that only after his mail order company had all the inventory they needed would Commodore ship any units to dealers.

But to use the PET you had to load BASIC from a cassette, and so on. Slow. By the time Radio Shack announced their TRS-80 Model I, the customers were ready for it.

I realized that the only practical way to provide the software these microcomputers were going to need was to manufacture and sell it in quantity. Up until then we had the mainframe computers, starting in the million-dollar range, complete with horrendously expensive software, also running in the million-dollar range. Then had come the minicomputers in the \$100,000 bracket. The software for these systems was custom developed for each user and also ran around \$100,000 on the average. So I figured that now that we had \$10,000 computer systems we were going to have to get software costs down too, and that meant mass production. That's when I started Instant Software.

My approach was simple. I got the readers of my magazines to send in software they'd developed for possible distribution. I set up a lab with around 30 work stations so we could cover the most popular micros. Incoming software was then evaluated by my people and the best of it was put into shape for production. We started out with a lunar lander, and went on to develop all kinds of games, educational stuff, and quite a few rather good business programs. Our Typing Teacher won prizes, as did our geography programs.

One of the best was Business Analysis. Though that was designed for the Model I, and later it was updated for the Model III, it was so far beyond anything

I've seen since that it is frustrating. I sure wish something like that was available for my Mac. If there's a program like this and I've missed it, please let me know.

It allowed me to enter the monthly sales figures for up to ten years of sales and would display them. Then I could ask it to do a graph of the figures and it would give me to max and min numbers and ask what max and min I preferred for the graph. Once I typed those in it would display the graph, showing the sales for the ten-year period. Okay, we probably have programs today that'll do that much. The next step was to ask it to do a moving average of sales. It would ask over what period. I'd tell it 12 months. It would consider that for a minute and give me a chart of the numbers. Then I'd graph the moving average. These graphs and charts could be easily printed, just by hitting a three key combination.

Now we come to the more valuable part. It could calculate the second derivative of the sales figures, showing the acceleration or deceleration of sales. I found that the number of pages of ads in *73* and in *QST* both had a curious 18-month sine curve that continued for years. Even more valuable was the ability of the program to project sales into the future, based on trends and taking into consideration periodic changes, such as seasonal sales changes. Is there anything out there that can do this? I'll buy it!

We're not talking Einstein here. The math required for all this is relatively simple, it's just that no one has bothered to build this into a program for the last 20 years. Phooey. Instead they've been busy providing us with three-dimensional graphs and junk like that. Hey, guys, keep it simple!

So what happened to Instant Software? It was a good idea and it did fairly well, but when I sold my computer magazines to IDG, they, being almost totally mini-computer oriented, didn't believe in mass-produced software. And without the infrastructure provided by the magazines, I couldn't continue. But we learned a lot and had tons of fun doing it.

For instance, we learned not to try to sell educational software to schools. We wondered why some of our prize-winning stuff was selling so poorly. When we studied our sales we found that we were selling one copy to each school and they were making all further needed copies. A couple years later we did another study and found that by then we were selling one copy to each school district. I talked with several other software companies and found they had the same experience. That's when educational software stopped being developed. And that's one reason we still don't have much of it that's any good.

At our peak in 1983 we had around a hundred people employed, were supporting over 250 good programs, were expanding rapidly into Europe and considering opening an Irish plant. Then IDG pulled the plug.

Let me know if you ever see a good business analysis program for the Mac.

Ahh, the Mac. I went out to Cupertino and was there for the unveiling of the original Mac. There was tremendous hoopla, but I wasn't impressed. The IBM PC had come on the market the year before and had almost instantly wiped out the TRS-80. Up until then the microcomputer market was split with Radio Shack having 40% of sales, Apple another 40% (Apple II), and about 200 smaller companies sharing the other 20%. Old-timers will remember CompuPro, Morrow, Ohio Scientific, Midwest Scientific, Polymorphic, and a bunch more.

Apple was semi-friendly to third-party supporting businesses, but Radio Shack was hostile. Really hostile. So when IBM came along, they had no problem in capturing most of the third-party support from Radio Shack, and that quickly collapsed Radio Shack sales. They went in about one year from 40% of the market to about 4%, and have never really recovered. The chairman, John Roach, never forgave me for predicting that this would happen unless he changed his policy of vigorously fighting all third-party support. But did he learn from this? Har-de-har. So Radio Shack has been a very minor player ever since and Radio Shack lost billions in potential sales. Tens of billions. My view is that they could have prevented the IBM putsch, if Roach hadn't been so blinded by greed.

The Mac didn't really get anywhere until desktop publishing came along. The Mac has stayed a year or two ahead of the PC in that field, and that's been its main strength. The Mac PowerBook was a major step ahead for writers like me. I'd tried several PC-type laptop computers, but none of them were as easy to use as my old Radio Shack TRS-80 Model 100, which I bought the day it came out in 1983. That baby went everywhere in the world with me.

A couple years ago I was about to start a PowerBook magazine when I saw the trouble coming for Apple as a result of Scully's ego-fascination with the Newton. That got him fired, which was well-deserved, I thought. But his replacement seemed no better, so I was afraid that Apple would be rudderless. And that's about the way things have turned out. My decision to not start the PowerBook magazine has proven to be prescient.

Scully, swept up in his visions of the information superhighway, jumped without looking very carefully to another firm, which turned out to be built mostly on vapor, which is a common enough foundation in the computer field. So Scully is joining the parade of has-beens in the field—like Tramiel, Busey (TI), DeCastro (Data General), Olson (DEC), and An Wang.

Oh, you probably don't care about all that old stuff anyway. I just can't help remembering how interesting it was in the early microcomputer days. I really should write about them some time.

Helping Kids

There's a lot of hand-wringing about the sad state of our youngsters. They're not getting interested in science and math—they're not reading—heck they can't even talk very well, like, ya-no. Yes, I agree that our educational system is at fault. It's been shown to be one of the worst in the developed countries. And yes, I have a bunch of ideas on ways to get it turned around.

My proposals for change are radical. They have to be, because all of the efforts to just improve education have failed. In the almost ten years since the *A Nation At Risk* report billions have been spent trying to improve the system. What they've found is that the system doesn't need fixing, it needs re-inventing.

Now, my question is this. How interested are you in helping to do something about this mess? I've done a lot of homework and have come up with some proposals for a completely new educational system—one I think you're going to

like. But just proposing the changes means little—the tough part is getting them implemented. That's going to take some work and clout. Are you into work? Have you any clout? Connections?

Indeed good news for entrepreneurs. Frankly, I hope they raise the minimum wage to at least \$7.50 per hour, which is around \$15,000 a year. How can a family live for much less than that these days, right?

Of course this will increase the costs for manufacturers to make products, forcing them to either increase their prices or get rid of workers by replacing them with automation and computers. And this is where you come in.

A good rule of thumb is to multiply the cost of manufacturing a product by about six to cover the costs of distribution and marketing. Thus any increase in worker's pay will be multiplied by six when it reaches the sales price for the product. And that will make many manufacturers no longer competitive with foreign factories, so they will either have to move their jobs to Mexico or some other lower wage country, or automate more to cut payroll.

If you spend much time on the telephone you know that more and more companies have replaced telephone operators with maddening automated message handling systems. There are fewer and fewer jobs for low-skilled workers. And there are going to be even less.

The next time you visit a factory, take a good look at what the workers are doing. How many of them could be replaced by a computer or a computer-driven machine? Every time you can replace a worker by a machine of some kind you are going to save the company money. You'll also probably improve the quality of the product.

A worker making \$15,000 a year also costs the company around \$5,000 more for health care insurance, unemployment insurance, and so on. A machine doesn't come in late and leave early. It doesn't have children that get sick. It doesn't even take long weekends or have to observe holidays. No ten-minute smoking breaks every hour, either.

Companies are going to be looking for consultants who can cut their payroll, either by streamlining the work or replacing un- or semi-skilled workers with machines and computers.

This is going to come as a big surprise to the kids who are dropping out of school. McDonalds is experimenting with automated burger flippers. It won't be long before most fast food chains can be run by half as many workers or less.

For instance, suppose you could punch in your order on a keyboard by your parking place as you get out of your car? You'd put your credit card in to pay and get a card to put that into a slot once inside. Your tray would come out almost immediately with your order. A similar system would work for the drive-through service. If you don't have a credit card you can pay with cash inside. But you can bet that McDonald's credit cards would be plentiful. They might even work at Wendy's, earning you prizes or future Big Macs.

Increases in the minimum wage have always hurt those the most that they were intended to benefit. Gee, what a surprise! Just as I replaced the teenagers who were helping me in their spare time (and learning) with automation.

Long Ago

When I first moved 73 to New Hampshire from Brooklyn in 1962, just two years after starting it, I hired a bunch of college dropout hams to come work for me. I paid \$20 a week, plus room and board. I had up to eight hams living in my 40-room house and we had a great time. I cooked the meals, we put out a great magazine, and we set up one heck of a ham station way up on Mt. Monadnock, a few miles away.

When I bought a small offset press we started also putting out a VHF magazine, a contesters' magazine, and one for club newsletter editors. High school kids came in after school and helped collate, staple, and address these publications for 50¢ an hour. They earned some spending money. It helped keep them out of trouble. And they got to learn about the responsibilities of working.

I had one ham working with us who was so much trouble that I finally gave up and tried to fire him. He pleaded with me to let him stay and keep working without any pay. Being a sucker, I said I'd give it a try. After a couple weeks I told him he wasn't worth nothing. He then offered to pay me \$20 a week if I'd let him stay.

I finally agreed to let him stay if he'd live in the hamshack house up on the mountain and help clean out the brush around the place. Just don't come down and aggravate us here. Well, for instance, I did the cooking and the live-in hams took turns washing the dishes. When it was Tedsy's turn he managed to turn a half-hour job into a four hour job. The same when it was his job to empty the wastebaskets or shovel out the horse stalls.

Tedsy came down from the mountain one day and asked if I minded if he put up a vee beam for six meters, aiming it down the east coast. What could go wrong? I said sure. The next thing I knew, a few weeks later, he'd cut down over a dozen big trees to make a path for the two wires of his vee beam. Worse, he'd miscalculated a bit and the beam was actually aimed at Bermuda, so no one down the coast could hear him.

I remember him walking up to me with a broken yardstick. He looked at me sheepishly and explained that he'd had it in his mouth and walked through a 30" door.

Bless The League

One day the government arrived. They'd had a complaint about my paying less than the minimum wage. I pushed them to find out where the complaint had come from and they said it was the ARRL, my publishing competitor in Connecticut. They said I'd have to stop paying the hams with the room and board and \$20 a week, pay them regular wages, and charge them for the room and board. And the after-school kids would have to get at least the minimum wage.

I automated the collating and addressing of the publications I was printing, thus getting rid of the school kids. The hams were replaced by local people doing most of the work. No more room and board. No more fun. And without the gang to

keep the ham shack up on the mountain operating, I closed it down and sold the place. Well, we all had the time of our lives while it lasted. Several of my alumni have gone on to be successful entrepreneurs.

You better believe that the lobbyists in Washington from Mexico and other low-wage countries are pushing Congress hard to increase our minimum wage. Every dollar it goes up will mean millions for their countries, and more welfare and unemployment problems for us.

One alternative is to improve our school system so we'll have better educated and better skilled workers so we can compete better internationally, but here we're up against the most powerful lobbies in the country, the teacher's unions. And they're strongly supported by the mass ignorance and apathy of voters.

Say, if Congress moves the minimum wage up to \$15 an hour we'll no longer have any poverty, right? Who could possibly be against that? If they move it to \$20 I might even consider working again.

Starting From The Beginning

After a good deal of research, plus some thinking, the whole miserable picture of how badly we've been messing up our children finally dawned on me. Oh, I suspected, but I figured I must be wrong. We wouldn't do *that* to our kids! Well we have and are—and it's going to continue unless you and I are able to stop it.

First, I hope you took the time a couple of years ago to watch a PBS movie called "7-14-21-28." It was a film showing interviews with seven-year old British kids. They asked them what they thought they might do in life. Then they interviewed them again at 14 to see how their lives had progressed by the time they were in their teens. Again they discussed their plans and interests. The third set of interviews with the kids was when they were 21. Now we could really begin to see how firmly their lives had been set when they were seven. The last interviews were when they were 28. This showed even more clearly how well established lifetime patterns are set by seven years old. The film is now available for rental, I understand, complete with interviews at 35 years of age. Don't miss it.

Now we can see that those psychologists have been right who have been claiming that by the time children get into school their minds are already closed to reading and intelligent speech. It makes sense if you know anything about how living things develop. If you interfere at any one stage of development, the whole organism is thrown out of kilter and can never really recover.

With babies we know that without adequate stimulation at the right time the brain fails to ever build the neuron networks needed to speak, read, and even think very well. Enter Big Bird, who turns out to be a much greater ogre than ever imagined. Yep, Sesame Street comes on a villain. Both day care centers and parents have been using Sesame Street to keep children sedated. Well, it's great for that. It hypnotizes them with flashing lights and constant action, but it doesn't provide the stimulation children need to build the neuron networks in their brains which are involved with dealing with language, exploring their environment and thinking. The result is kids that schools are unable to teach—kids without brains developed

enough to handle reading, kids with short attention spans who are used to instant gratification, kids who get bored easily and have few enthusiasms or even much of an interest in learning.

The really awful part of this is that once the time has passed for the child's brain to develop during this part of the normal growth cycle, there is no way to ever completely repair the damage. Children grow their minds and bodies step by step. When a step is skipped or mangled, it's mangled permanently. And that's what's happening when we should be reading to our children. We fared better a couple of generations ago when we listened to the radio. That called for building pictures in our minds—our brains got some work to do and were not fed visual pap, with nothing lasting more than a few minutes. Is it any wonder kids have such short attention spans and find books bor-r-ring?

Parents who are just too busy to read to their children should at least invest in some children's stories on tape—and I don't mean Dr. Seuss either. My mother read to me while I ate lunch every day. As soon as I learned to read I was hard at it, reading and re-reading the Oz books. I also loved the poetry of Robert Louis Stevenson and Eugene Field, and could recite much of it.

By ten years old I'd read all the Tom Swift and Tarzan books, Booth Tarkington, Mark Twain, books on flying and I even loved what few space travel books there were. So when's the last time you read to your children or grandchildren? If they've been poisoned by Sesame Street it's probably too late. I've been planning on making some tapes of me reading the Oz and the fascinating Ernest Thompson Seton nature books, but maybe I'm ahead of my time again.

If we want kids to get interested in science and amateur radio, they're going to have to be able to read and think. They're going to have to be able to set goals and achieve them. We need these kids as amateurs to carry on for the next generation. We need them to keep our hobby from being blown away by commercial interests. But most of all we need them as potential high-tech career scientists, engineers and technicians to help protect our quality of life in the next century.

Let's say that you're not being your usual contentious self and, for a change, you're agreeing with me. The logical question then is, what can I do about the situation? Heck, I'm only one person. Yep, you're one person—and so am I—and so are a hundred thousand other 73 readers. One thing I think you do recognize, if a hundred thousand people decide they're going to do something, the chances are pretty good they're going to get something done. And if you'll take the time and effort to convince just one other person, that's two hundred thousand—and we have a movement.

Does this seem important enough for you to pitch in and try to help change things? Too much trouble, right?

The AMA Sucks!

When I read about one therapy after another which has been proven in practice, but of which the AMA "doesn't approve," I almost get upset. It seems like almost every branch of science has the same problem.

In recent months I've learned a bunch about the problems that dental amalgam and nickel inlays can cause. If you have any amalgam fillings, I guarantee you'll be healthier if you get 'em replaced. You want to read *It's All In Your Head* by Dr. Hal Huggins. Those fillings, which the ADA still supports, are dumping poisonous mercury into your body.

Then there's the way we're doing a job on ourselves by preventing ultra-violet light from getting into our eyeballs. Read *Health And Light* by John Ott, *Light, Medicine of the Future*, by Jacob Liberman, and *Into The Light* by W.C. Douglass. It's amazing what even just a little ultra-violet light can do for your health.

There also is a long history of curing a wide variety of illnesses by exposing a small amount of a person's blood to ultra-violet light and then putting it back. Illnesses like cancer.

Are low powered magnetic fields helping to make you and your family sick? You bet they are. You can read more about this in *The Body Electric* by Robert Becker, *Cross Currents*, also by Becker, *The Electricity Around You May Be Hazardous To Your Health* by Ellen Sugarman, *Currents of Death* by Paul Brodeur, and *The Great Power-Line Cover-Up*, also by Brodeur.

You'll also want to read *Magnetism and It's Effects on the Living System* by Davis & Rawls.

And if that isn't enough, you're going to love *Hydrogen Peroxide Medical Miracle* by William Douglass. If you know anyone with cancer, colds, flu, artery plaque, heart disease, shingles, gum disease, etc., you should get them to read it.

K4VSC sent me a brochure from the Jungle Aviation and Radio Service (JAARS) about a snake bite zapper. It does about the same as zapping a snake bite with a wire from the spark plug of a car or boat motor, the way the Peruvian Indians do. JAARS is making small hand-operated generators for jungle use (no batteries to die). They claim that the treatment also works on scorpion stings. I'd say we need more research. I'll bet a similar approach would work on jelly fish, sting ray, scorpion fish, and fire coral stings. It might work fine for bee and wasp stings, and even mosquitos and other insect bites. Imagine what a business you could have with a little gadget which instantly stopped the itching of bug bites. It would have a small ring you'd put around the bite and an electrode to touch the middle of the bite. Zap, and no more pain.

There are more than a few reasons to suspect that something like this might also help with some skin or breast cancers. I've a letter from a reader citing the Swedish use of 12 volts to get rid of breast cancers, which I've already mentioned.

Alas, there is almost zero funding available for research into non-pharmaceutical approaches to sickness repair, and it has been claimed by many people in the field that the FDA is controlled by the pharmaceutical industry. Tough combo to fight, no matter how good the therapy.

Now we read that in the last 50 years male sperm counts have been cut in half. What we haven't yet read is what whatever is doing this is also doing to the surviving half of our sperm. If something is killing half, imagine how sick or damaged the other half must be! Pesticides are suspected. They've been used so extravagantly that now they're into just about everything we eat and much of what we drink.

They're into our farm soils and our water supplies. We eat them, drink them, and breathe them. Say, are you distilling your tap water before drinking it yet?

So what can we do about this mess we've gotten ourselves into? You can do the same thing I'm doing. You can do some research and get the facts. You can give talks at your local Chambers of Commerce, Rotary, Lions clubs. You can get on talk radio and pass the word. You can raise hell and put a brick under it.

I'm not talking ecoscams with little or no scientific basis like the ridiculous Alar scare, those owls, nuclear winter, acid rain, greenhouse summer, the snail darter, and the blessed ozone hole. And by the way, there are some fine books on all these media-hyped scares. The two I recommend as the best are *Environmental Overkill* by Dixie Lee Ray, and *Ecoscam* by Ronald Bailey.

Your alternative is to keep quiet and shrug off your responsibility to do your best to fight for a healthier life for your children—and theirs. And, as you are shrugging, try to remember that the main reason democracy has failed so badly in America is the refusal of most people to assume any responsibility, thus leaving much of the change in the hands of nut cases who do go out and scream and carry on.

The bottom line: do your homework and then make yourself heard.

Legacy

In a hundred years what will there be around to show that you've been here? Probably the only thing will be your grandchildren and their children. So much for your life's work—all the money you've made, and your lifestyle. Sure, a few people leave noticeable things behind. Music, or some sort of art—maybe a bridge or a building they designed. But for most of us it's our children that are the only record of our having been here.

Nature has gone to a lot of trouble to make sure that we generate children, so it's an almost sure thing that we will. But since this will probably be the only long-term reminder that you ever existed—except perhaps for a gravestone, which I doubt will get a lot of attention a hundred years from now unless it's particularly creative, which few are—shouldn't you maybe spend some time and effort making sure that your progeny are the best that you can turn out? And no, this is not a trivial project. However, considering its importance, perhaps it's worth investing some time and effort in it. Or is it already too late for you?

No, I'm not going to go into detail here on how to have the best possible children. There's nothing simple about it, and our present customs and life styles are so destructive as far as this goal is concerned, that you may not even want to know. We're permanently lousing up our children even before conception. Then we're doing another number on them during the nine prenatal months. That's followed by an even worse approach during their first year, followed by (ugh) pre-school. The products of these botches are then fed into one of the worst school systems in the developed world. Is that what you want to leave as your legacy? It's no wonder we're up to here in lawsuits, crooked politicians, crime, drugs, welfare, and other such scams.

Yes, I should try to make time to start writing a book on how to give your

children the best send-off in life you can—pre-conception, pre-natal, birth, the first year, pre-school, K-12, and then college. If it's too late to help you with your children, maybe it isn't too late for your grandchildren.

If there is such a book I haven't seen it, so I'll have to go into detail on each step, ending up with a *How To Have and Raise An Outstanding Child* manual, complete with repair instructions when mistakes are made.

Most of the information I've gotten has been the result of my research into education and health care for the New Hampshire Economic Development Commission. And a lot of it has appeared in my editorials. I sure wish I'd known about all this when I was getting my children started.

Dear Occupant:

Your body is designed with remarkable restorative powers. It's enormously over-designed for survival. It's able to keep going and repairing itself for years despite constant high stress, an input of coffee, Danish, Whoppers, fries and malts. Despite a lack of exercise, tons of beer and pretzels, a lack of sleep, an ungodly intake of chemicals via food preservatives, your water supply (which brings you fluoride, chlorine, lead, etc.) and pharmaceuticals. It even keeps going though we shovel in highly addictive and destructive drugs such as sugar, alcohol, nicotine, caffeine, cocaine, and so on. It keeps going even when deprived of the ultra-violet light it was designed to need, and in the presence of electromagnetic fields which interfere with the ability of its cells to communicate. It does its best to keep going despite steady infusions of deadly poisons such as mercury and nickel via dental fillings. Even with all these destructive things most bodies are able to keep going for 50-60 years, a demonstration of the incredible repair system which is built in.

Sure, there can be some genetically influenced repair problems which result in lowered performance. But most of these can be avoided if the occupant observes known, but not well known, health rules.

Oh, we know we'll live longer and healthier if we eat right, avoid drugs, get exercise, get enough sleep, and keep our stress to a minimum. We know it, but we keep putting all that off until tomorrow—the tomorrow that doesn't ever quite come.

We know now that we can have healthier, more intelligent, and better kids if we give them a good healthy start. And that means not screwing up our sperm and ova with drugs and magnetic fields before conception. It means being careful during pregnancy of magnetic fields, eating right, avoiding drugs and other chemicals, and avoiding stress or physical pain to the fetus.

We know that we've really screwed up the first year of life by separating the baby from the mother. We know that few of our child-care facilities are worth the powder to blow them to hell. We know that our schools are a major disaster. And we know what damage most fast food does to bodies, yet there we are, at McDonald's, queuing up at the counter, and not for their crappy salads, either.

If we were to apply the things that have been discovered about keeping our immune system strong, most of us would be living over 100 years and in good health. Instead, we are constantly knocking our immune systems for a loop.

Science and Life

One of the big problems with medical research is that it's being run by scientists. And scientists have a giant problem coping with the concept of life. They've been doing a good job of tracking down matter—well, they were doing pretty well when they got it down to atoms, but then some wiseacres weren't satisfied. They wanted to know what atoms were made out of. That got them down to protons and electrons, neutrons and positrons. A few more unsatisfied wiseacres wanted to know what those things were made of. I'm not sure quarks have been that helpful, even now that they think they've finally cornered the sixth, and supposedly last, the top quark. So what are quarks made out of? Let's spend a few billion dollars and find out. And let's know more about K, mu, tau, and pi-mesons. And muons.

Medical scientists have been doing about the same thing with the materials of life. They've taken cells apart and found DNA, a complex molecule with the ability to replicate itself. Now they're busy taking our genes apart and cataloging them with the genome project. But the scientists still haven't a clue as to what makes life.

Perhaps the missing element is one they haven't looked for yet—awareness. That's the one really basic difference between the animate and inanimate. How does awareness fit into all this? Consciousness? The mind? Sentience. All living things seem to have awareness, even single cells. Plants and trees seem to have some sort of awareness in that they fight back with chemicals when they are attacked, and they are able to communicate with each other to organize a group attack on insects. Apparently it doesn't take a brain for something to have awareness. Awareness, whatever it is, seems to be a property of all life, and thus presumably is the most firmly hard-wired circuit of our system.

Plants show an awareness of other plants, and of people. People experience telepathy and other such psi phenomena, so there is some sort of an awareness to awareness communications system which is quite different from molecules, DNA and genes. Or radio.

Scientists will, I believe, achieve a lot more progress with their medical research when they have a better understanding of life and the awareness that goes along with it. This means researching things that scientists really hate—like placebos, prayer, psychic healing, mob psychology, and so on. However, as Barrow and Tipler say in their *The Anthropic Cosmological Principle*, "Physicists—are loath to admit any consideration of Mind into their theories."

But then scientists have a long way to go in every branch of science. Physicists still don't agree on what gravity is. Or inertia. Or even what electricity really is. They don't know for sure whether there are magnetic or gravity "fields" or not. In biology they don't know yet how cells decide when to duplicate and how they know what part of the body they are making or replacing. How do they know to become part of a toe? The blueprint, they think, is in that big mess of DNA, only about 10% of which seems involved with the blueprints for the current model human being. They also don't have a clue as to how memory works or how we can retain memories for a lifetime when every cell in our body is being replaced every

so often. They don't even know if memory is in the brain. If it is, how come plants, which are even more brainless than some people I've met, have been demonstrated to have memories?

And how come some people who've lost 90% of their brains still have their memories? And other people with a different 90% of their brain missing, also have their memories?

It gets worse. I was just reading that if you take some of your blood out and connect a sensitive galvanometer to it, even though it is thousands of miles away from you, it will register the same swings the blood in your body is registering at the time. You can watch it respond as you are calm, excited, thinking sex, and so on. This almost makes me wonder about what conflicts may result from blood transfusions. It also may help explain how identical twins have so many common events in their lives, even when living apart.

There are many theories of how life got started, but none, other than the Hoyle-Wickramasinghe theory of evolution from space has any explanation for the existence of such universal awareness. And even their theory only moves the creation of life back one level of abstraction (thanks Korzybski!). However, no amount of taking DNA apart has yet given us any inkling as to how awareness developed. Of course it had to, otherwise we wouldn't be able to hold our ground in the eternal fight for life.

Every plant and animal has to fight on some level for food and the ability to reproduce. Plants do it slowly and man more quickly, with guns and bombs. Awareness is necessary for life. But how did it develop? And what is it?

It Gets Even Worse!

Once we recognize that consciousness is something separate from the physical body, we open a very messy door. Then we can no longer categorically deny the existence of non-physical phenomena. Once we open this can of worms we're dealing with what are often non-repeatable experiments. Worse, since this is a fuzzy area, it's alive with con artists. In the medical field we have quacks, both well-meaning and mercenary.

For instance, take out-of-body experiences. I've read some very convincing reports on them. I even attended a Mensa-sponsored conference where Mensa research teams reported on their amazing success with getting people to see what was in a basket hanging up near the ceiling—when not even the experimenter knew what was in it. The only way to avoid confusion once you get into the non-physical is to just refuse to believe anything, no matter how well researched. Fortunately, many people (including scientists) are able to do this. I consider this pathological skepticism.

Instead of ridiculing experimenters and trying to discourage research, we should admit that there just may be some things we don't know about yet and do what we can to learn more. So let's check out precognition, fortune-telling, psychometry, past lives, reincarnation, telepathy, telekinesis, mind reading, auras, Kirlian photography, ghosts, psychics, near death experiences, poltergeists, UFOs,

contactees, prayer, haunted houses, voodoo, Indian fakirs, dowsing, Oui-ja boards, automatic writing, Tarot cards, astral travel, palmistry, phrenology, astrology, all religions, angels, miracles—stuff like that. Sure, some of it is baloney. But is all of it fantasy?

On the medical side of things, how about homeopathy, acupuncture, herbal medicine, ultraviolet light therapy, hydrogen peroxide, photoluminescence, dental amalgam, root canals, the Bioelectrifier, diet, and so on?

How come so many of the great composers have said that their music often suddenly came to them in completed form when they were dozing off? And many famous writers too?

We're pretty good at cramming a million or so transistors on a tiny silicon chip, but we've hardly even peeked into the realm of consciousness. That's been off limits.

The only way I know to be a skeptic (a disbeliever, as opposed to a pragmatist) in many of the paranormal fields I listed is to avoid reading about them. For instance, I've just finished reading *Across Time and Death, A mother's search for her past life children*, by Jenny Cockell, a story by a woman who remembered a previous life in good detail and checked up on it. It's a Fireside Book, \$10 in paperback. There are a bunch of good books on reincarnation. Two in pocket books are by Michael Talbot and Edith Fiore.

Psychologists frequently find their patients suddenly recalling a past life when under hypnosis. When I was working as a professional therapist I often found there were present-life problems that could only be resolved by going to a past life, and they were always right there, easily contacted. I also found that anybody can recall a past life. Everybody has 'em.

Indeed, many children annoy their parents with memories of their most recent past life, but these usually fade away by the time they're three or four. At this age it doesn't take much discouragement by one's parents to shut off these memories.

Now how does reincarnation fit in with the 100,000-plus proteins that make up our bodies? Or genes, DNA, and so on? Maybe you'd better check out *The Secret Science Behind Miracles* by Max Freedom Long from your library and see how that goes down.

Author Taylor Caldwell has made a career out of writing about her past life experiences. Historians have been amazed at the historical accuracy of her novels. Maybe it's time to take a closer look at the mystery of life, which may have little to do with our physical universe, atoms, the speed of light, and even time, itself.

Tried Car Rallying Yet?

Have you ever, as a ham, provided communications for a local sports car club putting on a rally? You and your ham club can have a ball—just offer your services to car clubs, or even to the Sports Car Club of America (SCCA), which organizes the national rallies.

For that matter, if you haven't ever gone on a rally, you've missed a lot of fun. A bunch of us hams around Brooklyn (NY) used to go on rallies just about every

weekend. And you don't have to have a sports car to do it, though it's a whole lot more fun in a sports car.

There are a lot of different kinds of rallies, but the ordinary garden variety rally consists of from ten to around a hundred cars, each with a driver and navigator team, driving over ordinary roads and highways, and at below the speed limit, following a set of sometimes tricky route instructions.

The cars paste large numbers on their sides so the people at the check points can identify them. The cars are started at one-minute intervals. The organizers give the teams the route instructions one minute before they blast off. These are called time-speed-distance (TSD) rallies. The instructions give the speed to be driven over each segment of the rally, and usually provide fairly simple instructions for making turns and speed changes.

Saturday morning rallies are often short, running perhaps 75 miles. A weekend rally can cover several hundred to over a thousand miles. On busy rally weekends I used to be able to go on a Friday night rally, another Saturday, and still a third on Sunday. There were a ton of rallies around Long Island.

Every few miles there is a checkpoint—usually hidden. They time you as you pass, usually taking one point off your score for every 1/100th minute early or late. That's about a half second.

The winners are seldom off more than one point per checkpoint on the average. This means, if you have any serious intention of winning, you have to be able to measure your mileage down to a hundredth of a mile, and your time to the hundredth of a minute. Then the navigator, in addition to helping the driver find route turns and speed change locations (change average speed to 35.71 mph at the Wishing Well sign), also has to run a calculator or computer and let the driver know what his odometer should read when the watch's second hand is straight up.

In most sports cars fitted for rallies the hundredths odometer and a stop watch bracket are mounted on the dash so the driver can see them at a glance. The navigator reads off the instructions and computes. This is no job for anyone who tends to get carsick!

There are little complications which affect the calculations. Since no two cars have odometers that read exactly the same, in order to match your speed with that of the car used to lay out the rally, you need a mileage check. This is usually at ten miles out. When you reach the point where the official car's odometer read 10 miles you check what your odometer reads, and from then on you have to correct all of the instruction average speeds to take this difference into consideration. Hey, if it was easy, it wouldn't be so much fun. To win rallies you have to be a precision driver and a navigator who makes faultless calculations on the run and under pressure. If you get hung up in traffic or by stoplights you have to get back on schedule as quickly as possible. There's nothing like getting stuck behind a little old lady on a back country road to cause stress. Tough.

Most rallyists use a shortwave converter to pick up the time signals from CHU or WWV, just to make sure their watch isn't a half second off after a few hours bouncing along on back roads.

Hams can help car clubs by helping work the checkpoints and then radioing in

the points lost by each team to the finish line. That makes it possible to determine the winners faster. Without radios, the checkpoint people have to drive to the finish point with their scores, and then the organizers have to total them up. With many rallies having a dozen or so checkpoints, this can take a while. It's better to get the results announced quickly and hand out the trophies so everyone can go home and get some rest.

I was reminded of this the other day when I was out in the barn looking through some boxes and came on a couple cartons of old rally trophies. The silver is a little tarnished now. I should polish 'em up, I suppose. Back in 1958, when I bought my Porsche Speedster, I got involved with rallies, and I enjoyed them until I moved to New Hampshire in 1962. There's not much in rallies up here in the mountains and I miss 'em.

They've probably got some great computers for TSD these days. Thirty years ago most of us used the Curta calculators. They were made in Liechtenstein and looked like pepper grinders. They were made for currency calculations, but they were ideal for rallies. I liked 'em so much I went to Liechtenstein and arranged with the Prince to become an importer. I found the very best rally watches (Hanhart) in Schwenningen, Germany, and imported those too. I had quite a good importing business going selling rally equipment—including my own special speed tables, which beat the heck out of any others. I'm an incurable entrepreneur.

Walter Cronkite still remembers coming to my house in Brooklyn to buy a Curta calculator. He used to be big on rallying—until he and his navigator ended up in a lake one day.

You might want to try some local car rallies and see how much fun they are. Who knows, if you get addicted you might go for a Miata sports car, they're so reasonable. They're the closest thing there is to good old Porsche Speedster. But no matter what you're driving, you'll have a great time rallying.

One Million Dollars?

One result of my offering advice in my business publications such as *Music Marketing*, *Music Retailing*, *Ham Radio Marketing*, *Microcomputer Marketing*, plus articles in *Folio, Inc.*, and so on, has been a series of consulting gigs. While there are as many problems as there are businesses, I found some that almost all businesses have several in common.

The three almost universal problems are (a) lousy PR, (b) lousy advertising, and (c) lousy direct mail follow-up on advertising and promotion. Why the owner or CEO of a company would go to all the expense and trouble of developing a really good product, only to kill it with lousy marketing, is difficult to understand. I guess it comes down to either remarkable stupidity, or else a lack of education in the fundamentals of business.

What's more basic to selling a product than advertising? Yet there are few schools teaching the subject. Worse, all too many of the big ad agencies don't seem to have anyone around who's ever studied the fundamentals. When you consider that a good ad can easily sell ten times as much product as a crummy ad,

this is not something you want to trust to a high-school dropout. That's like a manufacturer letting a digital transceiver be designed by a Novice.

Since there already are books and courses available for anyone interested in learning about advertising, and I'm not interested in writing something that is already available elsewhere, I haven't yet written an advertising primer. Maybe one of these days.

When I started my first business, manufacturing loudspeakers, I quickly discovered that I couldn't depend on ad agencies for anything beyond doing the mechanicals for my ads. I'd have to design and write them. I bought some books, which were okay, but not great. One of the best moves of my life was to sign up for a course in advertising with the Advertising Club of New York. Their lecture series was superb. They not only covered how to design and write ads, but how to handle ads in magazines, newspapers, radio, TV, billboards, posters, and even match-book covers. Changed my life.

Promotion!

The easiest way for any company to generate more sales without a lot of expense is to go the promotion route. There's a lot to learn about this. There are obviously some sneaky tricks the professionals use to make sure their material gets before the public. As a publisher of some of the largest magazines in the country, I knew that not more than a handful of experts had even an inkling of how to get new products releases or product reviews published.

From my viewpoint, most companies are throwing away sales. A simple new products release in a magazine will, on the average, result in about the same increase in sales of a product as four full-page ads. A good product review will sell as much as ten full pages of ads.

If you use the normal magazine guideline, an ad, if it is any good, and is in a magazine reaching good potential buyers, should sell at least ten times the cost of the ad in product. Thus, if a page ad in a magazine costs \$8,000, an advertiser would expect to get at least \$80,000 in sales as a result. Now, if we figure that a company has at least four new products a year and thus is able to get four new products releases printed in a magazine, plus maybe two product reviews, that should provide the same sales as running three dozen full page ads—so we're talking about an additional \$3 million in sales, all from absolutely free advertising!

To help business people take advantage of the power of promotion I made a video explaining exactly how to do this—giving away some trade secrets that have made many other publishers furious. I've been selling the video for \$100 with a money-back guarantee. No one's asked for their money back yet, and I've sold hundreds of 'em. They're even being used by a couple of universities as part of their advertising courses.

Now I'd like to make this video available to interested readers at a big discount. How about \$40 plus \$3 shipping? Order my \$1 Million Video. Send a check or your MC/Visa card number to Wayne Green, Box 416, Hancock NH 03449.

It really doesn't make much difference what kind of a business you are in—

PR is an inexpensive and very effective way to generate sales. But, you know, not one company in a thousand knows how to get all this free advertising. Maybe one in ten thousand. And that includes some very large, but not too brilliantly run, companies.

Is it worth \$40 to you to generate a few thousand dollars in extra sales? Probably not. Too much trouble. Yawn.

I attend quite a few trade shows and I constantly marvel at how awful their hand-out literature is. Expensive, and pathetic. They desperately need a consultant to help with their booth design, their ads, and their sales literature. These things are as important to the success of the company as the design of the product. Yes, I'm available, but I don't come cheap.

Read The Fine Print

When anyone says anything about the small print I use for my editorials the first thing I do is whip out the glasses from my shirt pocket. If you shop around a little, all it takes is two lousy bucks and you'll be able to read the fine print as easily as I do. The discount stores have reading glass specials every now and then. I really hate paying \$12 for reading glasses when they sell them for \$2 every so often.

Oh, it took me a while to figure out the glasses con. When I suddenly lost my eyesight, I went to an eye doc and went the usual route. Two hundred bucks for a pair of nice glasses. Holy zorch! And of course I kept dropping them every time I leaned over to pick up a penny, ever in search of that elusive good luck. And this scratched the lenses. Or I'd sit on 'em when they were on the bed. Or step on 'em when I got out of bed.

All that got expensive for a seventh-generation skin flint of Scotch ancestry. Then I discovered that I could get the same glasses in Hong Kong for only \$100, complete with automatic darkening lenses when I was in the sun. The glasses stores there even have a machine that checks your eyes for your prescription. I was getting over to Hong Kong every year leading a group of electronics business people to the yearly electronics shows in Tokyo or Osaka, Seoul, Taipei, and Hong Kong. We had two to three hundred going over for the two-week tour every October, so I had no problem getting bargain glasses.

Then I read somewhere that those reading glasses in discount stores are just as good, so I tried a pair. My eyes needed +2.5 to bring everything into focus. These days it's +3.0 for reading and +2.0 for the further away computer work. At two bucks, if I step on 'em, it's no big deal. Crunch. Actually, since the frames are made of plastic, it doesn't seem to hurt 'em. The Building 19 stores in the greater Boston area sell reading glasses for \$1.97. If you buy 'em in their Nashua store there's no tax.

Anyway, when you get older your eyes need some help, or you need longer arms.

If you're a new reader, you don't know the story of how I lost my eyesight. I lost it all at once. Before that I'd always had exceptional vision. I could read the

gag business cards with one-point type. I could read signs two blocks away that were a blur to everyone else. Then it happened.

In my teens I bloated up and got fat. And I stayed fat, despite heroic dieting efforts. The old see-saw of lose 20 pounds, gain 25. I dieted. I fasted. My weight went up and down like a window shade, but more up than down. So one day I read about this great new diet where I could concentrate on eating protein. And when I felt hungry, all I'd have to do was drink diet soda pop. Hey, cool stuff! They were using saccharine to make the diet junk taste sweet in those days. I bought a few half-gallons of diet soda and got going on my new diet. And it worked, I didn't feel hungry after chugalugging the no-cal goop.

Then, along about the third day, I noticed that it was getting difficult to read the print in pocket books. Hmm. The next day typewriter type was getting fuzzy. By the fifth day the headlines were blurring out. Time to stop all this before I go blind. When I stopped drinking the no-cal stuff my eyes stopped getting worse, but they didn't get any better either. That's when I got my first pair of glasses. That was about 30 years ago and my eyes never got any better, so I've been a prisoner of reading glasses ever since.

At the time I wrote about my experience in my editorial. It was timely because a couple months later there was a big fuss about the damage that saccharine could do and it pretty much was phased out as a sweetener.

The eye doctors all explained that it was just me getting older that made me need glasses. Yeah? So how did all this happen in five days? Some day I suppose we'll find out that the saccharine makers knew about all this and kept it a secret. Meanwhile I've been a little leery of substitute chemicals. Someday we may learn that Nutri-Sweet also can produce health problems and the manufacturers knew it. Serves us right for trying to cheat Mother Nature (aka God). (How prophetic! The above was written before I'd read the reports about the dangers of aspartame, which is causing all sorts of very serious health problems.)

Oh yes, I solved my fat problem by taking off 85 pounds over a seven-month period and then changing my eating habits. I haven't had to diet much since then, and that was over 25 years ago.

One more glasses hint. They're all put together with little screws which eventually start unscrewing and falling out. Most of the time you can find the tiny screw and put it back in again. I think they use screws because this forces most people to go to a glasses store for the repair. Well, there's a simple and cost-free way to end that frustration. The next time a screw pops out, leave it lay and replace it with a short length of paper clip wire, crimped at the ends. It isn't elegant, but it'll never fall out. If you've got some diagonal cutters and long-nose pliers you can do the job in a minute. If you don't have them, you should, and I have no sympathy for you.

Speed Reading

One of the better moves I've made in life was in taking a speed reading course at the local high school. Before that I was bumbling along at a crummy 300 words

per minute, reading word by word, just as they taught me in school. At that speed there would be no way I could handle the homework that I need to do to keep up these days. As it is I zip through over a hundred magazines a month, lord knows how many letters and submitted articles for my magazines, plus two or three books a week. Very few novels, either. Well, I *do* read each new Tom Clancy book when it comes out. There goes Wayne, bragging again, right? No, my point is that I haven't done anything you couldn't do—if you'd just *do* it.

There are undoubtedly some fine computer programs to help you speed up your reading, but you don't need 'em. The process is really simple. It's like learning the code in that no amount of slow reading is going to speed up your ability to read. If you want to read faster, what you have to do is start pushing yourself. If you don't want to read faster, why not? There's no downside, and the upside can be amazing. It's easy to triple or quadruple your reading speed. And the surprising part is that the faster you read, the more you retain. That's right, comprehension improves!

Instead of reading one word at a time, push yourself to read two and three. Push harder. Then go to four and five. Pretty soon your eyes will be seeing a whole line at a time and you'll be reading by running your eyes down the middle of a column of text. You'll be able to whip through fiction like a breeze. Technical stuff is slower, of course.

Before you start pushing, measure your current reading speed, so you'll know how well you're doing. Pick a full page of text and time yourself. After you've been pushing to read faster for a few days, pick another page and test again to see how much speed you've picked up. I think you'll be pleased. Keep right on pushing and let me know how you're doing.

Hey, that's cheaper than taking an Evelyn Wood reading course, and the results are the same. Now, do what I say, and stop being so lazy. Push yourself.

Are You a Plus or a Minus?

Have you been contributing to the world? In the ham radio field, have you been helping your local club to get kids licensed? Have you been helping the club meetings to be more fun and attract more members? Have you been contributing to the ham magazines? Maybe doing a club newsletter? Organizing events? Teaching theory? How about building electronic gadgets and writing 'em up?

Or have you been spending your time on the air grumbling about this and that? Adding misery to DX pileups? Jamming contacts? Venting your irritation to anyone who will listen?

There are plus people who are contributing to the world. These are the ones who are giving us poetry, music, art, magazines and books, and other creative things for our minds. There are those who are devoted to graffiti and breaking the noses off statues.

Are you busy learning, teaching and creating, or are you wasting your life with inconsequentialities such as soap operas, talk shows, reading newspapers, watching sports (as opposed to doing them), and so on. Are you a spectator or a participant

in life? Have you ever even tried painting? Have you ever tried composing a song? Writing a poem?

Painting can be great fun. Though my mother was an artist she never tried to interest me, so it wasn't until I read an article in *Reader's Digest* about it that I went out and bought some paints and gave it a try. I found that although I never could draw, I was able to do some very nice paintings.

The candy of life is temptingly everywhere, steering you away from the fruit and veggies which will make you healthier and happier in the long run. Most people are slaves to instant gratification. Oh, they know that a salad is better for their body, but for right now make that a cheeseburger, fries and a Coke. Nobody lives forever, right? That'll be something to think about when you are 75 and have emphysema, arthritis, and a walker, not something of any great concern right now. Pick out a nice nursing home, right? When you have gotten yourself incarcerated in one you'll find out how lousy they are.

How are you to live and work with? Are you making people happier? Among the bundles of nice letters I get from readers there are occasionally some nasties. Name calling. These are from angry people, and I know that not one of them is living a happy life. They're stressing their families and co-workers. Angry people should never be allowed to represent a company on the telephone or in writing. Put them where they can't do the company harm with their attitude. Better yet, treat them as the infection they are and replace them. The plus side for angry people is that they live substantially shorter lives.

Well, enough for my sociological lecture today. Repent. Try writing a poem and see if you've still got some wonder and creativity left alive. How about trying your hand at your word processor on an article for a magazine or newsletter? My correspondents from heaven are adamant that you will get no credit whatever for having confirmed ham radio contacts with 350 countries, knowing baseball statistics, or having religiously watched a soap opera for twenty years. In fact, you might just find yourself recycled to Burundi as a Tutsi on the next go around. Serve you right.

How about trying to shoot a really good photo? Now there's a challenge. That takes creativity and skill. Stop throwing your beer cans out your pickup window and organize clean-up teams for your town.

Fighting Senility

This is a subject which should be near and dear to at least 70% of the active hams. In case you don't read *The Wall Street Journal*, you missed an interesting article on warding off senility. Luckily reader N8PWY is a much better person than you and keeps his Uncle Wayne's request for interesting clippings in mind. Wayne does not read any newspapers. No damned time. So it's up to you to check through your papers and clip out and send me anything having to do with UFOs, ham radio, medical facts, scuba diving, and so on. I haven't made any secret of what interests me, so keep some scissors or a X-acto knife handy.

Anyway, it turns out that not only should you be out there walking briskly for a couple of miles a day, getting some actual sun rays into your eyeballs, taking

your vitamins, and stuff like that, your brain also works on the use-it-or-lose-it basis. Once you start vegetating, your brain is going to turn into a turnip. So stop beefing about my editorials not all being about amateur radio. Start reading some of the books I recommend. Get some others too. And if you find any that are real interesting, let me know so I can buy them too. I may suffer from a lot of old age miseries, but turning senile isn't likely to be one of them. I read every minute I can spare. I jog a couple miles every day. I take my vitamins. I eat healthily. The result is that, despite some massive emotional traumas caused by crooked employees, I'm going strong.

This is one of the reasons that people who retire and take it easy die so quickly. Getting out there for golf may give you exercise, but it isn't going to keep your brain from turning into pudding. It isn't too late to get some books and start learning. Or maybe taking on some kids for Elmering. Or even some doddering old-timers who could use the company ham radio offers. You'll never get lonely when you have a ham rig at hand, and loneliness is one of the major senior complaints.

Crossword and cryptograms are great mind stretchers. I buy big books of these puzzles and do 'em all. I've got a fan who sends me stacks of old *New York Times* puzzles. Thanks, Rocky. I love 'em.

What's That Damned Noise?

It's Opportunity, banging away at your door, so why are you sitting there wasting your time when you could just as well be making money. A ton of money? Of course, I'm probably irritating you about this money thing because you have undoubtedly already organized your life so you are working at a job you really enjoy and making more than enough money to do just about anything you want. However, if this is true, it sure isn't reflected in the mail I'm getting.

It isn't reflected when I see the long lines of commuters driving to and from work every day, often for an hour each way. Hey, I used to do that too—before I knew any better. I used to either take the subway to the Long Island railway and then the train to Mineola when I worked at Airborne Instrument Laboratories as an engineer, or the subway for an hour to Manhattan, when I worked as the editor of *CQ* magazine. I was one of the millions of New Yorkers commuting to work every day, jammed into the subways, or crawling along the parkways in my car. Phooey.

I got to thinking about this when I saw two mail order companies selling a product which I'd recommended you think about as a commercial product when I published the schematic and details in an article over 20 years ago. Okay, so I was ahead of my time again. This is a great little device which jams police radar signals. And, the best part, it's a device which does this legally!

The article appeared in the Holiday 1976 issue, pages 32-35. In the introduction I explained that this simple unit could be home-built for around \$10 and should sell like crazy at \$49.95. It's on the market now for \$100, which is about the same as \$50 twenty years ago.

So what is it that gets some people to think as entrepreneurs, while others just trudge along from day to day, living lives of frustration and "quiet desperation?"

The world provides plenty of entertainment to help us while away our lives instead of using our time to make more money and maybe provide some products or services which will help the world to progress. For entrepreneurs, I should put those two benefits in the reverse order.

Articles in the business magazines by writers who have studied entrepreneurs tell us there are some common factors. For one, none of the really successful entrepreneurs have gone into business with the primary goal of making money. They are usually interested in doing something which they feel needs to be done. Sure, they know they have to organize their enterprise so it will make money if they are going to accomplish anything, but that's secondary and a nuisance.

Few successful entrepreneurs bother to finish college. They are too impatient. They soon discover that they aren't getting a good value for the time they are spending. They figure out that all a college education can really do is provide a basis for future learning. It's only a ticket to learn. It's a ridiculously expensive, time-wasting ticket, with virtually none of the courses having any practical application in their future.

The radar jamming unit is simple. It consists of an antenna tuned to the radar frequency which reflects the radar signal back with a stronger reflection than your car produces. In the antenna is a diode which modulates the reflected signal and fools the police radar unit into indicating whatever speed you want it to indicate. Since there is no transmitter, the device does not require a license and is thus completely legal to use. It's a great countermeasure.

An entrepreneur would look at the article and see an obvious public need, and thus an opportunity. As I pointed out in the first paragraph of my introduction to the article, "...the main reason for publishing this article is that it is an example of applying ham techniques to make commercial products. As a detector of police radar, one which returns a strong echo modulated to indicate whatever speed you wish, it is possible that a *lot* of these could be sold."

Police radar, by the way, has little to do with saving lives. It has everything to do with generating money through fines for the town. Driving 65 on a 55 mph country road when there's little other traffic isn't endangering anything except your wallet.

It doesn't take a lot of money to start a small manufacturing business. When I decided to start making loudspeakers in 1951 I went to the bank, borrowed \$1,000 on my car, and got a small wood shop to make a few units for me. Within two and a half years I had five factories working full time to fill my orders and I was the largest manufacturer of loudspeakers in the country. In terms of today's dollarettes I was selling about \$20 million worth a year. There goes Wayne, bragging again, right? No, it's really not that. I just want to prove that I'm not writing puff and baloney. I've been there, done that. I'm trying to encourage you to do things by proving they can be done because I've done them. Like the time I dieted 25 years ago and took off 85 pounds—and have kept it off.

There are endless businesses you can start in your spare time with only a modest investment. But you have to keep your eyes open and your imagination tuned for opportunities. I was lucky in that my grandfather was an inventor. A

successful inventor. He's the one who helped Henry L. Dougherty get going in the oil business—now known as Citco. He's the one who stepped in and reorganized Continental Can Company with innovative new products during the depression, thus keeping them from going under. They're doing fine today. Pop was a good role model.

My father was an entrepreneur too. He saw the opportunities in the flying business, so he learned to fly in 1921. He did the usual barnstorming at first, did the first study of American airports for the Department of Commerce, built Central Airport for the Philadelphia area, started the first transatlantic airline, and so on. We're working on reprinting his Ancient Aviator articles from 73 in book form.

My friend Joe Sugarman W9IQO saw an opportunity to sell electronic gadgets to yuppies and made jillions with his JS&A mail order operation. He's now doing just fine selling Blu-Blocker glasses via TV infomercials. If you decide to go into business you'll need to read Joe's books on advertising and marketing.

Once you tune your mind to it, there are endless entrepreneurial opportunities. I started my first business when I was 13. I was into stamp collecting and I noticed that collectors were interested in buying bulk stamps, so I went into business as the Elm Stamp Company. I bought 100-pound bags of stamps, repackaged them in five and ten-pound boxes, and built a nice little business. That was just before I got interested in radio at 14, which then took over my spare time.

It's frustrating for me to see people wasting their time watching sports, soaps, sitcoms, TV talk shows, and on idle gossip on 75m or QSL-hunting on the higher bands. With so many entrepreneurial opportunities out there, why leave little more than a headstone and a few poorly brought up children as your only legacy?

To find opportunities you need to read. There are products and services needed in just about any field you look into. Health, education, crime, entertainment, the arts, and so on. Please note that I have not even hinted at your going into business making a ham product. I can't think of anyone who's gotten rich selling a ham product. We hams are famous for being frugal (cheap). A few hams have started out in the ham business and then gone on to make more commercial products with success. Tough way to start.

Read magazines and books. Look for new ideas which can be commercialized. When I was working as an engineer for Airborne Instrument Laboratories I ran across a chap who'd invented a great new microwave antenna. I pointed out that microwaves and audio had the same wavelengths, so he'd inadvertently invented a new kind of loudspeaker. We spent a summer developing a prototype, and then I set up a company and started making 'em. He stayed with AIL.

These days I see opportunities for new products and services at every turn. My problem has been finding the people I can depend on to follow through. There's just so much I can do by myself, and then I have to depend on others. That's been a major problem for me, so I do what I enjoy—starting new businesses, getting them going, and then I tend to sell them off to get out from under the need to keep managing them, which prevents me from being able to start new businesses. I really hate having to work with the financial reports, which becomes a full-time responsibility by the time you have a half dozen businesses.

Since I can't do it all, it's up to you to get off your...er...couch, put down the TV remote and the beer, and get busy starting new businesses. How many magazines are you reading a month? Well, I'm probably reading and checking through several times as many. How many books a month?

Here's An Idea!

How about inventing a simple pair of roller skates that can be quickly stepped into—something like putting on skis these days. Make 'em light. The idea is to make it easy for people to put on the skates to get around town fast, and then take them off when they pop into a store, on a bus, or the subway. People need something like this to get around our cities quickly. It would beat the heck out of walking.

Not everyone knows how to skate now, but if a product like this were available, we'd have octogenarians skating. The next thing you know we'd see more streets closed off from vehicles and lanes for skating. I suppose we'd want both in-line and the old four-wheelers. I know I'd be right up front in line to buy a pair, and the shoes needed to mate with them.

I remember seeing a TV segment on the chap who invented the in-line skates. He got shafted by the manufacturer, so he's trying to invent another new product and maybe be a little smarter on the business end next time. If you know where I can get in touch with this chap, I have the idea he needs to make zillions. You could too, but I can't get you away from watching ball games on TV and wasting what's left of your life rag-chewing on 75m or the local repeater.

(2000 note: I see that a couple companies have finally produced removable skates such as I've suggested. Building 19 has 'em marked down fro \$240 to \$100, so maybe I'll get a pair.)

Your Other Legacy

A recent study showed that the average American father spends five minutes a day with his kid. Five lousy minutes? And then he grumbles about family values not being taught, and wonders later why his kid has "gone bad." Your kids are the most important legacy you're going to leave, so you better figure out some way to spend more time with 'em.

Read to 'em. Tell them stories. Find out what problems they're having in school, or even with you. Be a dad, not just that guy sitting there on the couch watching TV every night telling them to keep the hell quiet. The average kid spends three hours a day in front of the television. That's a terrible habit to give them for life. Start early and make TV a privilege, not a right. You might insist that they only watch videotapes. In that way you can guide their viewing and not let them get hooked on stupid sitcoms and trash TV like Oprah or Geraldo interviewing 400-pound black lesbian mothers.

Get them interested in reading, in poetry, in classical music. Help them learn skills such as skating, ice skating, skiing, swimming, juggling, bicycle riding, some magic tricks, building electronic kits, using tools, repairing things. Do your children

have their own desks and quiet place to study? Do they have a workbench, tools, and some test equipment? How about their own computers? And not for games. How about a chemistry set? How about painting? What musical instrument are you encouraging them to learn?

I've seen Novices of four, and an Extra Class girl of nine. Get your kids going and they'll be showing you how to handle packet traffic and make satellite contacts.

Yes, I know it's difficult to break your own habit patterns, so why not try to spend ten minutes a day with your kid instead of five. It'll be a start. My father never spent five minutes a month with me, and I've never forgiven him.

Well, that's enough lecturing. Now stop screwing up. Start reading some of the books I've been recommending. Did you get *Kinship With All Life* yet? If your kids are young, start reading the Oz books to them. I've been wanting to put these all on tape for kids for a couple of years now, but there never seems to be time. I've got every one of L. Frank Baum's Oz books. Did you see that wonderful TV movie they did of him a few years or so ago? I've got it on tape so I can see it again now and then.

I also want to tape all of Ernest Thompson Seton's animal stories. They're fabulous and I've got most of his books. For adults I want to do tapes of the Kai Lung stories by Ernest Bramah. His books are terrific. Sigh.

But then, as I walk through my library I see book after book that I know you would enjoy. Benchley, Stephen Potter, H. Allen Smith, Parkinson. It's even worse when I start going through my CD collection. You ought to hear this—and so on.

Raising the best possible kids you can is not intuitive. You not only have to overcome your own crummy training by your parents and the great American school system (which is a disaster of major proportions), you also have to fight against the currently entrenched systems for dealing with children. And then there's the peer-pressure monster.

Children, like dogs, are naturally programmed to please (called instinct), but unless you take the time to give them the training they need and want, they'll cause you and themselves trouble. So read to them. When they're old enough start getting them to read the books I've reviewed in my *Secret Guide to Wisdom* so they'll have a better understanding of what the world is really like. A reality check.

Now, how come your nine-year old children or grandchildren aren't Extra Class hams? Why are they dressing in peer-influenced clothes? Why are they listening to rap and hip-hop instead of classical music? Hey, they're what you've made them. Or neglected to make them. Five minutes a day, eh?

The War On Poverty

The PBS series on President Johnson's futile war on poverty made it pretty clear that throwing money at the problem hasn't worked. Most of the thrown billions ended up in the hands of the government bureaucrats. That reminds me of the quote about the missionaries going to Hawaii to do good, and doing very well indeed. America's "war on poverty" has cost taxpayers trillions of dollars, and helped build an even larger federal bureaucracy which has made the poverty

situation worse.

Maybe there *is* no solution to the poverty problem. Maybe there will always be poor people. Yes, there probably always will, but there don't have to be as many of them. Not nearly as many. So what's happening that's generating generation after generation of poor people, and what can be done to break the insidious pattern?

You may at first think I'm really stretching to claim that amateur radio can be a significant part of the solution. So how can I make the claim that amateur radio can be instrumental in helping eliminate much of the poverty in America (or anywhere else in the world, for that matter)?

Let's start with fundamentals. If you've given any thought at all to the poverty problem, you've can't have failed to notice that there are very few really poor people with good educations. Oh, I've known a couple, but they were certified nut cases and were thus unable to work despite their education. As a good general rule let's agree that education and poverty don't go together. You may also have noticed that very few rich people are uneducated. This is not a coincidence.

Okay, if we want to get rid of poverty we're going to have to somehow see that poor kids get educated. And this isn't going to be easy. I won't go into the gory details, but we're saddled with one of the worst government-run public school systems in the world, plus poorly educated parents who are busy teaching their children how to stay poor, and peer pressure (gangs) pushing them to drop out of school and ridiculing them if they do well, or even try.

Immigrant Asian parents, who emphasize the importance of education to their children, have proven that the parents can have a powerful impact on their kids. Though often poor, they see to it that their children get a good education and move out of poverty, despite our terrible school system.

There are some practical solutions to improving our schools and to generating an interest in poor parents to encourage their children to be educated. I've covered this territory in some depth in my past editorials, so I won't repeat all that. Yet.

Interesting Kids in High-Tech

It's a high-tech world and getting techier. Our kids have to cope with the information superhighway, and that means computer literacy, a need to understand electronics, television, and so on. Two generations ago we hand wrote everything; a generation ago we used typewriters; today it's word processors. It wasn't very long ago that we used pens, blotters and pen wipers. That's what we used when I was in school. There aren't very many blotter manufacturers any more. If any.

Just as there is a strong parallel between education and success in life, in today's world there is also a parallel between understanding technology and success. Maybe you've noticed that our newest billionaires are high-techies. Scientists, engineers, and technicians are being more and more needed to fuel the changes in our society. Communications and transportation are speeding up and getting cheaper. This is putting blue collar workers in America on a more level playing field with workers around the world. If your job can be done as well or better by a foreign worker at a lower cost, you're going to lose out. Job protection can't be legislated.

One's job protection today is one's accumulation of skills and knowledge.

Here comes amateur radio.

As a scientific hobby, amateur radio has the potential for interesting youngsters in learning about electronics and communications. Even computers are an integral part of hamming these days. One of the big keys to making our American school system more effective is to make it more fun to learn. Hamming, where we have a group of around 73 hobbies, has almost unlimited fun to offer youngsters. It is a key to getting them to learn because they want to, not because the government will punish them and their parents if they don't go to school.

Back in the 1950s, before our only national amateur radio organization, the ARRL and their so-called "Incentive Licensing" proposal to the FCC, destroyed both the American ham industry and the infrastructure of about 5,000 school radio clubs which had been feeding youngsters into the hobby, studies showed that 80% of all new licensees were youngsters and that 80% of those went on to high-tech careers as a result. That's what happened to me.

Indeed, amateur radio was, before the ARRL's proposed rule change, *the* major supplier of scientists, engineers and technicians for our country. When World War II came along 80% of our hams enlisted. As did I. When I went to the Navy electronics school I found hams everywhere. Virtually all the instructors were hams. Later, when I went into ham publishing, I found that a high percentage of the top people in the electronics and communications industries were hams who had, like me, started in their teens. In the 1950s 50% of all new hams were 14 or 15 years old! Like me.

In those days virtually every high school had a ham radio club. That's what got me going. I went to Erasmus Hall High School in Brooklyn (NY). My interest in building radios and listening to the short waves got me to join the club (W2ANU). From there on the club members got me to practice the code and get my ham license. These clubs were almost all wiped out by the ARRL's Incentive Licensing mess 30 years ago. That's when the hobby stopped growing, going from 11% growth per year (for 18 years) to less than 1% most years since then. That's when every major ham equipment manufacturer and 85% of the ham dealers went out of business.

Packet radio is an exciting aspect of the hobby. It gets kids to learn about computers and digital communications because they want to. Slow- and fast-scan television teaches them about video and digital data compression. Ham satellite communications helps them learn to deal with microwaves. And all of this is tremendous fun!

I've been urging every ham radio club in America to get busy and get radio clubs restarted in our schools so we can regain our lost amateur radio infrastructure. Today we need to get kids interested in high-tech when they are 8-10 years old. This is why I've proposed that we start teaching the fundamentals of electronics in every school in grades 5-12. There is less and less need in business for people who are ignorant of technology. Almost everyone has to deal with computers and communications in their work, so the better they understand what they are doing, the more valuable they are going to be. The man or woman who looks up helplessly when his or her computer stops working will tend to be replaced by a

more self-reliant worker.

We're heading into a world of video conferencing, telemarketing, and information handling. Good jobs await those with the skills and knowledge to deal with this world. Poverty awaits those who don't keep up.

Indeed, there is such an extreme shortage of high-tech workers in America today that companies are having to import better trained foreign workers. And our technical universities are graduating more foreign students than Americans.

Amateur radio is by far the best hobby there is for getting youngsters interested in learning the things which will be more help to them later on. There are a bunch of other scientific hobbies, but none of them have such a wide variety of interests and excitement to offer.

We have DXers, who are mainly interested in contacting foreign countries. We have specialists who love contests, who want to see how many countries they can contact on some particular ham band, such as 160 or 80 meters. We have awards for contacting all states, and so on, which can be very difficult on some ham bands. We have weirdos (like me) who love to visit countries which haven't many active hams and get on the air for a few days, making thousands of short contacts and providing DXers with a confirmation of a new country contacted. I've done this from Nepal, Syria, Afghanistan, Iran, Tahiti, Swaziland, and a bunch of other strange places. Ever even hear of Sabah? It used to be British North Borneo.

Most hams get interested in building their own equipment. Some buy kits and assemble them. Others buy the basic parts and build. At the Dayton hamfest every year there are acres of hams selling equipment and parts at the flea market. There are over 500 such exhibits. And parts are being sold at every hamfest around the country. It's great fun to build and get something new to work.

Unless we in America use every stratagem to get our kids to build their skills and high-tech knowledge, youngsters in other countries are going to take away their jobs. Just look at the way Asian countries such as Japan, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia, and India have been pulling themselves from incredible poverty to wealth. And now China is growing fast! I've been visiting these countries for over 35 years now and I have seen the unbelievable changes first hand. In Japan, there are more than twice as many ham radio operators per capita as we have. Every school in Japan has a radio club. Is it any wonder they've been able to take away every consumer electronics industry of ours?

We invented the transistor, they developed and marketed it. We invented videotape, they developed and marketed it. And so on. We don't make TV sets any more. We don't make cassette recorders, VCRs or CD players. Japan makes about 90% of our audio equipment. When I visit their factories in Japan I am met by smiling Japanese hams at every turn.

What can you do about all this? That's easy, get together with some local hams and start helping your local schools to form radio clubs and get kids interested in amateur radio. It'll be the best thing you can do for the kids, for America, and for yourself. Yes, the school administrators will probably fight you at every turn. Try my motto: Never Say Die! Get on your local school board and keep the pressure on. We need tens of thousands of school radio clubs and millions of new hams.

Maybe tens of millions. We have more than enough frequencies available. Heck, we're using less than 3% of our ham bands today.

Amateur radio, properly applied, has the potential to do more for anti-poverty than all of the enormously wasteful government programs. In the long run we'll have a far more stable society when we have as few people in poverty as possible. The extremes of wealth and the lack of it feed discontent, as we see our politicians using to their advantage at every turn. The more we can build up our middle class and cut down on our poor and rich, the less jealousy and envy we'll have dividing us. But it's up to us to do something, not our politicians or bureaucrats, who are in bed together. And all this won't cost the government a penny.

The millions of bureaucrats kept in business by anti-poverty programs and welfare have a powerful vested interest in maintaining poverty and welfare. Why on earth should a welfare worker do anything which is going to get people off welfare? That's shooting themselves in the foot. In the long run your choice is to let things go along as they have, sending the larger part of your earnings to the government to spend for you, or to start your own private war against the status quo by striking sparks to enlighten the minds of our kids.

I can do no more than give you the tools and point out a worthy goal. I can't come to your home and yank you off your sofa, away from that stupid ball game, no more than I can stop you from going to McDonalds and poisoning your body. Our kids need your help. And so does our country.

Oh yes, please don't tell me that poor kids can't afford a ham station of their own. I've seen the sneakers they're wearing, even if they haven't learned how to tie the strings. You can buy a great little low powered ham transceiver kit of \$60 these days. Brand new! And there's some great older stuff going for ridiculously low prices at the hamfest flea markets.

Arrogant Scientists

Working in the cold fusion field has brought me into contact with both open- and closed-minded scientists. I don't mind if a scientist, or anyone else for that matter, disagrees with others about something. What annoys me is when someone strongly disagrees about something that they haven't bothered to find out about.

"Well," they say, "everyone knows" such and such. Oh, baloney. Sure, we know quite a lot about things we can see and feel. When it gets to the micro and macro we know less. Okay, matter is made of molecules. Molecules are made of atoms. Atoms are made of electrons, protons, neutrons and stuff. Yeah, and what are they made of? Well, quarks. And they're made of sub-quarks. And then what? We have no idea of how many more layers this goes—levels of abstraction, as Korzibski called them in his monumental *Science and Sanity*. If they're some kind of energy, what kind?

On the macro end cosmologists are theorizing all over the place. The Big Bang comes and goes in popularity as astronomers and astrophysicists come up with new data which requires extensive retheorizing to explain. So they argue over an expanding universe that isn't expanding into anything. They theorize about

parallel universes, wormholes and super strings. Then some astronomers screw it all up by discovering that our whole end of the universe seems to be moving off to the left at 435 miles per second, attracted by no one has a clue what, or perhaps repelled. Liberals should like that.

If you've been reading *Newsweek* and *Time*, you know that astronomers and cosmologists are battling each other over a welter of contradicting theories. Cover stories, no less. Every time a group of astronomers comes up with new information, it seems to blow all previous theories into hyperspace. Have you been reading about the Great Wall? The Great Attractor? The missing Dark Matter? Don't wait for the scientists to agree before plunging into this mess because you aren't likely to live that long.

Yes, of course I can recommend a couple of good books. One of the best and most readable is *Exploring the Physics of the Unknown Universe* by Milo Wolff. It's \$15 in paperback, so look for it. Also in paperback, at \$14, is *The Big Bang Never Happened* by Eric Lerner. Milo is a good friend and one of my scientific advisors for my "*Cold Fusion Journal*."

I've a news flash for you. Scientists are no smarter than most of the rest of us. They don't even know much more about most things outside their special niche than we do. The major difference is that they have taken the time to learn a whole lot about one thing. They've become experts on it. Well, you'll be surprised at how little effort it takes to catch up with most of these specialists. When I tackled ham teletype I started from ground zero. Within a year I was writing articles and then I wrote the first book on the subject and had a regular column on it in *CQ*. And I didn't do anything that anyone else with the guts to tackle the subject couldn't have done.

When the microcomputer came along I decided it was time to learn about them. When I discovered that there were no decent books or magazines to help me, I started *Byte*. I knew that this incredible new development would spawn a need for information. I was right. When I started it I had to hire an editor who knew about computers. A year later I'd learned enough about computers to edit my next magazine in the field, and to be out lecturing. That wasn't a matter of any great brilliance on my part, just the result of a whole lot of hard work.

The compact disc got me involved with digital recording, so I had to start fresh in that field. No, I hadn't been wasting my life watching Geraldo, Oprah, Donahue and such. No ball games. No quiz shows. Darned few sitcoms. But I have read a bunch of books and attended conferences. It's entirely your option whether you want to be an expert in something or an ignorant dummy. None of this stuff is very difficult to understand if you bother to read. Well, most of it. I have to admit to being over my head on particle physics, where there may be over 200 particles flying around. But I'm working at it, so maybe by next year I'll at least be able to ask the experts questions.

Amateur radio is in desperate need of some pioneers. Here we are, stuck in the 1960s with our technology. We should be using digital voice and developing our own data compacting algorithms. We should be zapping data through our ham satellites at 28.8 kB, at the least. Instead we are still fighting in pileups when

someone comes on from a rare country. Or not rare, if band conditions are lousy.

With the Internet as an inexpensive alternative to amateur radio, we'd better get cracking. We have the satellite bands. We even have a couple dozen ham satellites. What we don't have is the technology. We got started with packet around 20 years ago, and have been progressing at a snail's pace ever since. We pioneered sideband 40 years ago and haven't budged an inch since. We got busy with repeaters 25 years ago and we've hardly seen a smidgen of progress since. In 1970 I had a repeater on a local mountain which repeated on either 10m or 6m as well as 2m. How many do we have like that 25 years later? I've regusted.

No, you're not too old to start something new. I'm 74 and busy learning. Doc Patterson, the chap who got the first cold fusion patent, is my age. When a nine-year-old girl can get an Extra Class ticket and a 74-year-old invent circles around some of the world's top laboratories, what's your excuse?

(As an update, four years later, look at the incredible things my research has turned up in the health field! For instance, I've found some almost unknown doctors who have discovered a simple, inexpensive, drugless cure for cancer! Now I'm busy trying to get this information out to the public to help save millions of lives.)

Good News For Entrepreneurs!

The socialists in Congress are pushing to raise the minimum wage. This is indeed good news for entrepreneurs. Frankly, I hope they raise the minimum wage to at least \$7.50 per hour, which is around \$15,000 a year. How can a family live for much less than that these days, right?

Of course this will increase the costs for manufacturers to make products, forcing them to either increase their prices or get rid of workers by replacing them with automation and computers. And this is where you come in.

A good rule of thumb is to multiply the cost of manufacturing a product by about six to cover the costs of distribution and marketing. Thus any increase in worker's pay will be multiplied by six when it reaches the sales price for the product. And that will make many manufacturers no longer competitive with foreign factories, so they will either have to move their jobs to Mexico or some other lower wage country, or automate more to cut payroll.

If you spend much time on the telephone you know that more and more companies have replaced telephone operators with automated message handling systems. There are fewer and fewer jobs for low-skilled workers. And there are going to be even less.

The next time you visit a factory, take a good look at what the workers are doing. How many of them could be replaced by a computer or a computer-driven machine? Every time you can replace a worker by a machine of some kind you are going to save the company money. You'll also probably improve the quality of the product.

A worker making \$15,000 a year also costs the company around \$5,000 more for health care insurance, unemployment insurance, and so on. A machine doesn't come in late and leave early. It doesn't have children that get sick. It doesn't even

take long weekends or have to observe holidays. No ten-minute smoking breaks every hour, either.

Companies are going to be looking for consultants who can cut their payroll, either by streamlining the work or replacing un- or semi-skilled workers with machines and computers.

This is going to come as a big surprise to the kids who are dropping out of school. McDonalds is experimenting with automated burger flippers. It won't be long before most fast food chains can be run by half as many workers or less.

For instance, suppose you could punch in your order on a keyboard by your parking place as you get out of your car? You'd put your credit card in to pay and get a card to put into a slot once inside. Your tray would come out almost immediately with your order. A similar system would work for the drive-through service. If you don't have a credit card you can pay with cash inside. But you can bet that McDonald's credit cards would be plentiful. They might even work at Wendy's, earning you prizes or future Big Macs.

Long Ago

When I first moved 73 to New Hampshire from Brooklyn in 1962, just two years after starting it, I hired a bunch of college dropout hams to come work for me. I paid \$20 a week, plus room and board. I had up to eight hams living in my 40-room house and we had a great time. I cooked the meals, we put out the magazine, and we set up one heck of a ham station way up on Mt. Monadnock, a few miles away.

When I bought a small offset press we started also putting out a small VHF magazine, a contester's magazine, and one for club newsletter editors. High school kids came in after school and helped collate, staple, and address these publications for 50¢ an hour. They got some spending money. It helped keep them out of trouble. And they got to learn about the responsibilities of working.

I had one ham working with us who was so much trouble that I finally gave up and tried to fire him. He pleaded with me to let him stay and keep working without any pay. Being a sucker, I said I'd give it a try. After a couple weeks I told him he wasn't worth nothing. He then offered to pay me \$20 a week if I'd let him stay.

I finally agreed to let him stay if he'd live in my house up on the mountain and help clean out the brush around the place. Just don't come down and aggravate us here. Well, for instance, I did the cooking and the live-in hams took turns washing the dishes. When it was Tedsy's turn he managed to turn a half-hour job into a four-hour job. The same when it was his job to empty the wastebaskets or shovel out the horse stalls.

Tedsy came down from the mountain one day and asked if I minded if he put up a vee beam for six meters, aiming it down the east coast. What could go wrong? I said sure. The next thing I knew a few weeks later he'd cut down over a dozen big trees to make a path for the two wires of his vee beam. Worse, he'd miscalculated a bit and the beam was actually aimed at Bermuda, so no one down the coast could hear him.

I remember him walking up to me with a broken yardstick. He looked at me sheepishly and explained that he'd had it in his mouth and walked through a 30-inch door.

Bless The League

One day the government arrived. They'd had a complaint about my paying less than the minimum wage. I pushed them to find out where the complaint had come from and they said it was the ARRL, my competitor in Connecticut. They said I'd have to stop paying the hams with the room and board and \$20 a week, pay them regular wages, and charge them for the room and board. And the after-school kids would have to get at least the minimum wage.

So I automated the collating and addressing of the publications I was printing, thus getting rid of the school kids. The hams were replaced by local people doing most of the work. No more room and board. No more fun. And without the gang to keep the ham shack up on the mountain operating, I closed it down and sold the place. Well, we all had the time of our lives while it lasted. Several of my alumni have gone on to be successful entrepreneurs.

You better believe that the lobbyists in Washington paid by Mexico and other low-wage countries are pushing Congress hard to increase our minimum wage. Every dollar it goes up will mean millions for their countries, and more welfare and unemployment problems for us.

One alternative is to improve our school system so we'll have better educated and better skilled workers so we can compete better internationally, but here we're up against the most powerful lobbies in the country, the teacher's unions. And they're supported unconditionally by the mass ignorance and apathy of voters.

Say, if we move the minimum wage up to \$15 an hour we'll no longer have any poverty, right? Who could possibly be against that? If they move it to \$20 I might even consider working again.

What's Cooking?

If you want to live to be 70 and take advantage of the free skiing us septuagenarians enjoy, not to mention getting those full Social Security payments, even if you're still working, you're going to want to have stopped smoking early on, taken it easy on the beer, and kept your weight down. The next time you're wandering around a mall, just take a look at how many tons of fat you see waddling around.

There are plenty of great things you can cook which will help keep your weight down, things which you can whip up in minutes. For instance there's Uncle Wayne's Onion Slumgullion, which I guarantee you'll love. And it only takes maybe ten minutes from start to finish.

You dice up a 3" onion, slice a quarter cabbage into quarter-inch strips, quarter a 1-inch chunk of Polish Kielbasa and then cut the quarters into 1/8th inch slices. You're almost done. You put all this into a large frying pan with a little bacon fat to keep it from sticking, turning it to prevent burning.

While that's cooking, bring two cups of water to a boil in a small saucepan. Add a crunched up package of ramen noodles and cook for three minutes. Strain the noodles to get rid of the water and add the little package of flavoring. By now your onion and cabbage mix should be done. Do *not* over cook. Turn off the fire, mix in the noodles and serve.

I add salt while I'm cooking, plus plenty of black pepper. You can try it bland, but then give it a try with a heavy pepper hand. Vegetarians can leave out the pieces of sausage. The above makes enough to feed two for a fast dinner. I often make up a double portion and put the leftovers into the fridge to be warmed up in the microwave oven. Tastes like fresh-made.

If you haven't been provident enough to make some home-made applesauce to go with the Onion Slumgullion, you can make some in about five minutes. Allow one medium apple per person and slice into a microwave dish, skin and all. You want to start with a tart apple, like a Baldwin, Cortland, Macintosh, Northern Spy, Transparent, or Duchess, and *not* one of those crummy bland (ugh!) Delicious. Quarter the apple, cut out the core (a grapefruit knife does this well), cut the quarters into four chunks so they'll cook fast. Add a handful of raisins, a couple tablespoons of Brownulated sugar and a half inch of water. Cook about three minutes in the microwave and you'll have a great companion for the Onion Slumgullion.

It's been a while since I've given the recipe for Uncle Wayne's Hurry Curry, so keep after me and I'll write it up again. It's fast, fabulous, and diet food. Of course if all you've ever learned to eat is hamburgers, then I can tell you how to make the best hamburger you've ever tasted, and fast too. I enjoy cooking, but I like things I can fix in a few minutes. Ask me about Uncle Green's Beans.

(Update 2000: While the above is better than most things you've probably been eating, if you are at all interested in keeping your body in top notch health, or want to recover from almost any illness, you are no longer eating cooked food. You are also not eating any nitrate preserved meats such as Kielbasa. Or apple sauce, which is both cooked and has sugar added. Well, I said I've learned a lot about health in the last four years.)

IBM and Apple Both Fail? That's Ridiculous!

There's still time for either or both companies to be rescued, but I'll be very surprised if it happens. Are you interested in what's gone wrong and why I think the problem probably is terminal? Well, I'll tell you anyway.

Both companies have had recent CEO changes as a result of poor performance. But the new CEOs, unfortunately, aren't the right people for the emergency. With both companies having financial problems, their boards have reacted reflexively and put in bean counters. Financial men to handle financial problems, right? Bad decision. If I'd been on either board it never wouldn't have happened that way.

But then I haven't seen any sign that the boards of either corporation have anyone who really understands the business they're in and the sweep of history in this industry. I guess you had to have been there to know what's been going on inside the industry.

Let's Take Apple First

Steve Jobs has been hailed as a visionary because of the popularity of the Apple. Ditto John Scully after him. I think I can make a good case for neither really being visionaries. Indeed, Scully was brought in to rescue Apple from Jobs' monumental blunders, which were sinking the company. We've had a good practical example of Jobs' vision in the dismal failure of his NeXT computer, which is now kaput except for its operating system.

The original Apple was put together by Steve Wozniak. Jobs, his friend, had been selling those illegal blue boxes to people wanting to cheat the phone company out of long distance charges and saw Woz's Apple as a marketing opportunity. In that he was right, but it didn't take a lot of vision to see where the microcomputer industry was heading, just a reading of my editorials in *Byte*. I saw it a year earlier when I started publishing *Byte*. By the time Apple was getting started I was already starting *Kilobaud*, the second computer publication.

The Apple computer took off and soon had 40% of the microcomputer market. Radio Shack's TRS-80 had another 40% of the market, and about 200 small companies (all now gone) shared the other 20%. This was the way it was when IBM came into the market with their PC and blew everything up.

Meanwhile, the rift between Jobs and Wozniak was widening. The Woz was pushing to keep on improving the Apple II. Jobs, who'd had little to do with its design, had delusions of grandeur and wanted to invent his own computer. This resulted in the Apple III and the Lisa, two bombs. Woz left in disgust when Jobs blocked his every effort to upgrade the Apple II.

The Lisa was based on a new approach to computing that had been developed by Xerox in their Palo Alto Research Center, one which allowed the user to work with icons and menus instead of typed in commands. It was a good approach, making computers much easier for beginners to use. Friendlier. Except that the Lisa was pathetically slow. I had one, so I know first hand.

The Apple II was based on the 6502 microprocessor, which was pretty good when it came out in 1975, but was getting to be an antique by 1979. The Intel 8080 had been improved with the 8086 and the 8088. Then came the Z80 and the 80186. It was a steady improvement and growth of the basic 8080, and all designed by one chap. The same thing was happening to the 6502, but Jobs wouldn't let the Apple II be upgraded to the 65816, a sixteen-bit and much faster version. He had a vendetta against the Apple II and Woz, and this doomed the II.

I visited the chap in Mesa, Arizona, who had designed the 65816 to get some samples for projects I was working on and he had a 65832 all designed and ready for prototyping. This would have run 8, 16, or 32-bit software, it ran at 30 MHz, and had built in circuits to speed up the disk drives and output to a printer. This chip would have put the Apple II into the minicomputer power bracket. Jobs said no, a decision that cost Apple billions.

When the Lisa laid an egg Jobs rounded up a development team to speed it up. In 1983 he introduced the Macintosh with the usual hoopla. The Mac was much

better than the Lisa, but it had almost no application programs, so its acceptance was dismal. It was supposedly aimed at the business market, but there were no business programs for it. The first practical software for it made use of its graphic abilities and soon was being accepted by artists. But the real breakthrough came when desktop publishing software was developed. The Mac still is a stranger in offices, where the IBM format completely dominates.

The mess all this made at Apple resulted in their board of directors bringing in Scully, who got rid of Jobs as quickly as he could. But the damage had been done and Apple today has only 7% of the market. If Jobs had let The Woz keep on developing the Apple II the company might have had two winners today, and a few billion dollars more in sales.

There is a wide open opportunity for either Apple or IBM to take the next logical major step in the market, but with bean counters in the CEO chairs instead of visionaries, the chances of either company taking this step are minuscule. Such a step would quickly leave all the clones behind, knocking many of them out of the business. The step would require the least change for IBM, and could reverse their gradual disintegration. I've written to both of the new CEOs, but no answer.

The step I'm proposing involves the development of industry niche specific computer systems, complete with local service. I've written about this in greater depth in earlier editorials.

The IBM team that developed the PC saw the importance of third-party support for the Radio Shack TRS-80, so instead of going the old IBM route of a closed operating system, they cooperated with software and accessory suppliers. Radio Shack, meanwhile was still fighting these suppliers, so they dropped their Radio Shack computer support and moved to IBM. And that's when the Radio Shack computer share of the market dropped from 40% to around 4%, costing them tens of billions. Radio Shack has never recovered from this blunder by Tandy Chairman Roach.

Now the IBM PC is getting thrashed by clones, but the real long-range disaster for IBM is the loss of the main frame market to super-micros, as I predicted over ten years ago. Apple, by keeping their operating system closed, has discouraged software support of business-oriented systems, so even though the Macintosh has been ahead of the PC in graphics and publishing, it's been far behind with business applications—and that's been over 80% of the computer market. Only a bold step in a new direction by Apple or IBM can reverse these trends. They are both in desperate need of a visionary to keep them from being history.

Okay, You Electronic Experts

I've just heard from a second 73 reader who says, "I don't care what some loony researcher has shown, I know that all this stuff about 60 Hz magnetic fields hurting people is bunk." I asked both if they'd read anything about the research. They hadn't, because they knew it was baloney, so why waste their time.

This reaction is one scientists should appreciate, because this same approach is endemic in the scientific community. It's dandy retribution when it happens to

them. In the science business the deck is stacked against research in any new field. A scientist's success is measured by the number of papers published. The more papers, the easier it is to get research grants. But the scientific journals are reluctant to publish papers which challenge orthodoxy, thus making sure that new research projects are not challenging. The result is that today science has lost its spirit of adventure.

In the past scientists have held on to their beliefs tenaciously, and only reluctantly accepted new ideas when there was no other refuge. Let me quote Max Planck, the pioneer in quantum physics: "A new scientific truth does not triumph by convincing its opponents and making them see the light, but rather because its opponents eventually die and a new generation grows up that is familiar with it."

Quantum physics really shook up the scientific world. It answered some questions, but in the process it opened up many more that scientists are still struggling with. It's fun to read about all this. I've read several fascinating books recently on this subject. I really should review them for you and see if I can get you to read them. For instance, you'll really enjoy *The Holographic Universe* by Michael Talbot (\$10), and *Parallel Universes* by Fred Wolf (\$10).

As usual, I digress. Well, there are so many interesting things to talk and write about that my talks and writing seem to mainly be a long series of digressions. Perhaps my recognizing this has contributed to my cutting way back on the number of talks I've been giving at hamfests. There are just too many exciting things to talk about and too little time.

Electromedicine

Now, undigressing, and getting back to bioelectromagnetics and bioelectricity, I read a book while on my birthday Caribbean tour that I just have to tell you about. It's *Cross Currents* by Robert Becker (\$14). The subtitle is: "The perils of electropollution and the promise of electromedicine—a startling look at the effects of electromagnetic radiation on your health." This book really kept my highlighter busy. It was exciting to read.

Not only will the research that has been done in this field fascinate you, it may well get you to thinking about setting up a little lab and investigating some areas where there's still a need for basic research—research within your ability to do.

The more you read about life and the cells which make up life, the better you understand that life can be seen as fields within fields within fields. And this is helping to bring about a revolution in medicine. We know now that chemicals and surgery aren't the only possible ways of curing illnesses. We know that the mind can influence the body, and that the body has a powerful built-in self-healing immune system. So we're seeing a growing interest in "unscientific" approaches such as acupuncture, placebos, visualization, homeopathy, hypnosis, foods, herbs, meditation, and electro-medicine. Are there more productive approaches to tackling illnesses such as diabetes, AIDS, chronic fatigue syndrome, Alzheimer's, autism, and even cancer? Is it possible that physicist Bob Beck really has a little simple-to-make electrical gadget that can cure AIDS?

(Update 2000: the answer is a thundering YES! Wait'll you read my *Bioelectrifier Handbook*.)

Now, back to Becker's book. He starts out with the history of medicine, explaining how it has evolved. You're probably familiar with the story of how Lister discovered germs, how physicians refused to believe him, and continued to kill most of their surgery patients through infection for many more years. Becker didn't mention that, but it sure makes a good point.

Scientists have found that our bodies work on an incredibly complex combination of both chemical and electric actions. So Becker got interested in how salamanders are able to regenerate arms, legs, and tails. Maybe, if we understand how they do it, we might be able to regrow human arms and legs. He discovered that very minute electrical currents controlled the regrowth phenomenon. Minute being billionths of an ampere!

You'll read about how he applied his new understanding to the regrowth of leg parts in rats, and in helping speed bone fracture healing. You're not going to like this, but researchers have found an amazing correlation between the voltage points on the body and the acupuncture points of ancient Chinese medicine.

Becker traces the history of cancer research and the changing medical beliefs about it. The newest research indicates there is an electronic biological control system involved. This would help explain spontaneous remissions, the placebo effect, and why Beck's Bioelectrifier works so well.

Our Microcurrent Analog System

Our body works much like a computer, using digital communications for all our senses—sight, hearing, taste, smell, touch. But beneath that more recently evolved system they've found a much more primitive analog communications system which is still with us. This involves communications about damage to the body and operates on microcurrents. It's a fascinating detective mystery, where Becker has dug out past research data which didn't make sense at the time and put the puzzle together.

Then he gets into how all life has evolved in the Earth's magnetic field and how magnetic fields influence every cell. The micropulsations in the Earth's magnetic field are strongest at 10 Hz, the frequency at which many of our brain functions occur. Becker shows how electromagnetic energy systems within the body control growth and healing, regulate the level of activity of the brain, and produce vitally important biological cycles by deriving timing information from the natural electromagnetic environment of the Earth. He shows that there is a relationship between the Earth's geomagnetic field and human behavior. Further, it's been shown that the conscious mind can control the level of activity in the body's DC control systems. This helps with our understanding of how changes can be brought about by the use of visualization, hypnosis, meditation, biofeedback, suggestion, placebo, and religious experiences.

Some yogis are good at this, but more research is needed before the rest of us will be able to use this enormous power. If the placebo effect could be bottled it

would be worth billions. Placebos have been shown to be able to work in 60% of clinical cases, so we're not talking chopped liver.

How do healers work? It isn't the placebo effect, because they're able to be as successful with animals as people. So what then? And how can those super-diluted homeopathic remedies possibly work? Scientific orthodoxy says it's impossible, so the scientists get all upset, going deeply into denial every time a double-blind research project shows success. It's impossible, so they don't want to even know about it. They argue that there must be some fault in the research. But then more and more labs come along reporting the same findings.

We're dealing with extremely sensitive biological chemical and electromagnetic systems. For instance, a male moth sensing one single molecule of a female pheromone will fly toward her. This process involves the transfer of but a single electron!

Zapping Drug Addictions

A small voltage stimulation unit is popular for sports medicine and is even being used by jet-fighter pilots to prevent backache from their cramped cockpits. Another has been amazingly successful in helping people cure drug habits—without withdrawal symptoms. Further, the people had a personality change from an addictive to a non-addictive type.

Then there's the use of small voltages and magnetic fields to help bones mend. These same currents can cause cancer cells to have explosive growth. In 1880 a doctor reported that a patient with cancer of the lip and chin had been struck by lightning and his cancers disappeared within a few weeks, nor did they return during the following ten years. That Dr. Frankenstein treatment is a little rough, so perhaps it's time to see just what it does take. Becker reports on the recent research in this field, showing that even at very low power, microwave energy can have a number of extremely undesirable effects.

How about the Amazon Indians who treat snakebite by touching it with a wire from the spark plug of an outboard motor, giving it a low-current, high-voltage zap? This seems to inactivate the toxin. Otherwise fatal bites are survivable with this technique.

Becker shows how solar flares affect the Earth's magnetic field and how this correlates with mental hospital admissions. He questions if it is just a coincidence that past species extinctions coincided with gravity field reversals.

Then he gets into man-made fields and their effect on all life—including us. Doctors in Houston found that the children of fathers who'd been exposed to electromagnetic fields (EMFs) at work had a significantly increased risk of having children with brain cancer before the age of two. Exposure to microwaves and any other man-made electromagnetic fields (such as 60 Hz) produces stress, a decline in the immune system, and changes in the genetic system (none beneficial).

There is a good reason to suspect that the virtual explosion of cancer in the last two decades may be due to EMFs such as we get from TV sets and electric blankets. Since 1975 lymphoma, myeloma, and melanoma have increased by 100 percent,

breast cancer by 31%, testicular cancers by 97%, kidney cancer by 142%, colon cancer by 63%, and so on. Is that enough to make anyone think?

Work is just starting in the extremely low frequency (ELF) field. It turns out that the brain is extraordinarily sensitive to amazingly low levels of ELF. The government has discounted the emerging research reports because they simply can't be true. Besides, it would interfere with some of their multi-billion dollar communications systems.

We're using nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) units in hundreds of hospitals, yet yeast cells exposed to NMR multiply at twice their normal rate and their offspring are only half as large as normal!

We know that all substances are magnetic to some extent, because the spin of the electrons around the nucleus produce a magnetic field. Some people are so sensitive to magnetic fields that just being near a TV or computer terminal causes their skins to turn red and bring on flu-like symptoms. Are the rest of us totally immune? Not bloody likely.

The power companies, appliance manufacturers, broadcast stations, and the military have enormous vested interests in the public not finding out about how their fields are affecting us. Scientists who have persisted in publicly raising the issue of harmful effects from any portion of the magnetic spectrum have been discredited and their research grants taken away. Paul Brodeur's books on the subject have documented this, even citing how much some named scientists were paid by the power companies to testify on their behalf when questions were raised. It almost reminds one of the tobacco and fiberglass denials.

I think you'll enjoy the book. It's written so you won't have any problem understanding it and it goes into a lot of fascinating detail. I don't think you'll allow any family member to use an electric blanket again, and you may decide to move your linear amplifier across the room where it isn't as close to where you operate your ham station.

Now do you see why I found this book so interesting and am trying to get you to read it? It will open a whole new world for you—starting you looking for more information and perhaps even getting you interested in doing some research yourself. And it might give you pause before you expose your unborn child to an ultrasound scan. It could change the baby for life, and the change would not be for the good.

Next I want to review a book by T. Srinivasan, an interesting chap I met recently at a Subtle Energies Conference in Monterey. This is a collection of 28 papers presented at the 1987 Energy Medicine Conference in Madras, India. I'm encouraging Srimi to bring out a new edition, but with the material presented in a more reader-friendly form. Scientific papers are usually very difficult to follow, and it's a shame for this important material to be buried for the lack of an easy to read English translation.

Then there's *The Secret Life of Plants*, by Tomkins and Bird, which raises a whole bunch more questions. And have you read *Electromagnetic Man* by Smith and Best yet? Tsk! Your mind isn't much good to you if you don't give it data to work with, and that garbage on TV you've probably been wasting your time on does not count as data.

Do You Suppose? Maybe?

There's something that's been puzzling me for ages. Actually, now that I come to think of it, there've been several things that have been puzzling me, and which now make sense. Like how come no one has written any really creative classical music in the last fifty to sixty years? Like how come so many readers tell me they don't always agree with my editorials? Like why we Americans put up with the crooks we've been sending to Washington; our crummy post office; our dreadful schools—the most expensive and worst in the industrial world—and so on.

Yes, I admit I'm probably part of the problem, in that I tend to be much too cautious about speaking my mind. A good friend of mine, Allen Turoff, the chap who invented the game of Boggle, and an old car rally buddy of mine, used to call me Wishy-Washy Wayne because I was so hesitant about expressing my opinions—and so insecure in them, once they were pried out of me.

Suddenly several things which have been puzzling me fit together and made sense when I read a book by John Taylor Gatto. He's the New York State Teacher of the Year you've probably seen interviewed on TV, and his book, *Dumbing Us Down—The Hidden Curriculum of Compulsory Schooling*, is a corker.

I semi-survived our public school system, but it so numbed me that it wasn't until I went through a new kind of psychotherapy when I was 28 that I was able to actually start thinking. That's when I started reading and building my library. I referred to this therapy when I described how the mind works in my October 1992 editorial. I'll eventually explain how almost anyone can help others to start thinking and stop just reacting—but that's going to be a major writing project, so I'm going to wait and see how much interest there is in the incredible health secrets I've discovered before I spend time writing a book only a few people will care about reading.

John Gatto's book is the most devastating indictment of public education I've seen yet. Oh, we've known for over ten years that we have one of the worst educational systems in the industrial world—which makes up for its terrible results by being one of the most expensive. But what we haven't considered, and what even John Gatto hasn't suggested, is the end result of this lousy system has been a throttling of creativity and genius, a generally negative approach to new ideas, and a fear of opposing the system.

If you stop and think about it, not only haven't we seen any really outstanding composers in the last sixty years or so, we've also seen a drop in creativity in art, literature, poetry and so on. We've seen a deterioration of the whole country. Now I think I know what's gone wrong.

In compiling the review of books you're crazy if you don't read, my *Secret Guide to Wisdom*, I was really stuck for recommending many recent humor books.

When I read a book I keep a highlighter at hand. Well, my Gatto book is an epic in yellow swatches. Unfortunately, since you are a product of our educational system, the chances are that you find books boring, and besides you know that there's nothing you can do to change things, so why bother. It's hopeless.

What Our Children Are Actually Being Taught

John points out that he teaches seven basic concepts. He teaches confusion by dealing with subjects out of context and not relating them. Curriculums have no coherence.

He teaches class position—to envy and fear better classes and have contempt for lower classes and groups. He understands that truth and schoolteaching are incompatible, as Socrates pointed out thousands of years ago.

He teaches indifference—that no job is worth finishing, and this is driven home by bells, which stop everything in mid-stream. Nothing is worth finishing, so why care?

He teaches emotional dependency. Rights do not exist inside a school—not even free speech—unless the teacher says they do—not even to go to the toilet.

He teaches intellectual dependency. Successful students do the thinking he assigns them, with little resistance and a show of enthusiasm. Curiosity causes trouble, so conformity is rewarded. Wait to be told what to do.

He teaches provisional self-esteem. The lesson of report cards, tests and grades is that children should not trust themselves or their parents, but should rely on the evaluation of certified officials.

He teaches that one can't hide. In school there are no private places. Children must be closely watched if you want to keep them under tight control.

He says, "It is the great triumph of compulsory government monopoly mass-schooling that among even the best of my fellow teachers, and among even the best of my students' parents, only a small number can imagine a different way to do things—the truth is that reading, writing, and arithmetic only take about one hundred hours to transmit as long as the audience is eager and willing to learn."

Now is it entirely a coincidence that artistic creativity dwindled as public education took hold? It was started in the mid-1800s by a group of socialists, but didn't take over completely until around 1880, when the militia finally forced parents at gun point to send their children to public schools. The system grew in administrative bureaucracy and control through the 1920s.

Gatto says, "When children are given whole lives, instead of age-graded ones in cellblocks, they learn to read, write and do arithmetic with ease." He points out, "Out of the 168 hours in each week my children sleep 56. That leaves 112 hours a week out of which to fashion a self. Children watch 55 hours of television a week. That leaves them 57 hours a week in which to grow up. They attend school 30 hours a week, use about 8 hours getting ready for it and traveling to and from school, and spend an average of 7 hours a week in homework, a total of 45 hours. During that time they are under constant surveillance. That leaves them 12 hours a week out of which to create a unique consciousness. If we allot 7 hours a week to evening meals we arrive at a net amount of private time for each child of 4 hours per week.

Gatto suggests that this develops dependent personalities and that this has a lot to do with the things that are killing us, such as narcotics, brainless competition,

recreational sex, violence, gambling, alcohol, and the accumulation of things as a philosophy. This is what this brand of schooling must inevitably produce.

The results he sees are children who are indifferent to the adult world, who have almost no curiosity, who have a poor sense of the future, who have no sense of the past, are cruel to each other, are uneasy with intimacy and candor, who are materialistic, and who are dependent, passive, and timid when faced with new challenges. Is it any wonder that he says we don't need more schooling, we need less? He believes that education should make you a unique individual, not a conformist.

When I see teenagers with the knees out of their jeans I know I'm looking at conformity-driven kids who have been so brainwashed they're unable to think for themselves. When I get letters from readers who tell me they don't always agree with what I write I know I'm dealing with someone who has never learned to think. No, I don't mean everyone has to agree with everything I write. If that's your reaction, it proves you don't get it—and may be incapable of "getting it." When someone disagrees with me I expect the honesty of them telling me what they don't agree with and what information they have to substantiate their opinion.

It is rare that I meet survivors of our school system who think positively. The normal reaction to ideas is to come up with reasons why they won't work. These are usually emotion driven, not logic or thought supported.

I have to admit to being frustrated by the infinite capacity of the American people to accept the screwing the government is giving them. They may grouse, but they are terrified if there's a suggestion that they might be quoted. They are annoyed at the massively crooked Congress they've elected, yet they've just re-elected 93% of the incumbents. They watch the exposés of graft on TV with passive frustration. They are annoyed by the \$500 billion savings and loan fraud, which Congress abetted; the billions stolen from one government agency after another; the billions wasted by the military; the lousy performance of the post office; our schools, our health care system, and our inability to deal with welfare, crime, drugs, and so on. But *do* anything about it? No way!

If The Schools Are So Bad What Can Be Done?

I've covered my recommendations for a totally new kind of educational system in my book, *Declare War*, so I won't go into the gory details here. Briefly, I recommend school be made non-compulsory; that tests and grades be eliminated; teachers be replaced by team leaders; schools be open year around; ed schools be closed; teacher certification ended; radio, computer and other high-tech clubs be encouraged; and so on. Yes, I go into detail, explaining my reasoning.

The book is now out of print, but with more than a little encouragement I'd update it for a second edition.

My, How Things Have Changed! And Not For The Better!

Us old-timers have noticed the way "the world has changed." More crime, drugs, riots, poverty, divorce, homeless, and porno. Family life is less like the

Nelsons and more like the Simpsons these days.

You don't suppose there could be any connection between all this and our educational system, do you? Isn't what we're seeing happening exactly what you'd expect from the education John Taylor Gatto was forced to provide? And which he got awards for providing?

But, other than sit around and wring our hands, what can we *do* about it? The educational establishment has our hands tied. Let's say that you're the one parent in a hundred (or thousand) who actually takes a look at the stupid books your kids are using for texts and you get angry enough to want to at least get the kids better books from which to learn. You'll soon find out what you're up against.

The books are selected by the local school board. You talk with them and find they know almost nothing about the books. They just use the recommended book list. So why not run for the school board so you can start changing things?

Two years later you've made it. Then you find that getting better books onto the list, even if there are any, is a multi-year project. It seems that the state text book commission reviews the books for any specific course once every five years. And here you'll find yourself up against a well-healed sales force from the bigger publishers—and perhaps bribery.

You're up against institutionalized mediocrity. The books are lousy. Many teachers are bad. The classrooms and bells are bad. The curriculum stinks. Our educational system doesn't need a patch job, it needs re-inventing. Patching will be fought at every level by the entrenched system—teachers, administrators, unions, textbook publishers, school boards, and a host of government agencies dependent on the status-quo.

Is the situation really hopeless? They got us when we were kids and did us in. They're doing the same thing to our children and grandchildren, only it's gotten a whole lot worse. Is there no way to stop this institutionalized massacre of our kids minds? Not unless you get mad enough to break through the wall of apathy the system has built for you. Not unless you really want something better for your children and your country.

A good educational system can make all the difference. It can end poverty. It's the *only* way to end poverty. Just taking money away from those who worked hard for it and giving it to those who haven't bothered to get an education because the system defeated them, isn't a good answer. We've tried that and it hasn't worked.

A good educational system will cost much less than the bloated bureaucracy we have now. It'll prepare our kids to be competitive in the 21st century with the other industrial nations. It'll give them a happier, better quality of life. It'll bring back inventiveness and creativity. It'll greatly reduce crime and drug dependency. It'll end welfare, cut down on teenage suicide, reduce divorces, improve our health, and perhaps even get us interested enough in government so we'll end the massive corruption in Washington.

None of this is going to happen with the school system we have now. These miseries are artifacts of the system. If people paid a fraction of the attention to fixing our educational system that they do to ballgames, we'd be richer, happier, and healthier. Can it happen? You tell me.

Uncle Wayne's Caribbean Adventures

The downside of the laptop computer revolution is how easy it makes it for people to write. People like me, for instance. Naturally I had my little Mac PowerBook with me when I made my 11-island 21-day Caribbean ham-music-diving 71st birthday celebration safari in September. In between mini-hamfests, scuba diving, flying from island to island, and reading a pile of books I'd brought along, I somehow managed to write a blow-by-blow travelogue of the adventure.

Any seasoned reader of my editorials will not be surprised that it quickly assumed epic proportions. It started as a simple letter to my Aunt Kitty in Joliet, but it grew legs. By the time I got the whole thing together it ran a Reader's Digest-sized 40 pages. Then I added a story from my 1992 visit to Dominica, where I almost got skewered by a thrashing diving ladder. Say, why not include a hilarious story I did about my diving cruise on the Ocean Quest a couple years back? And a couple other Caribbean diving vacations?

I somehow couldn't help myself from sending a letter to the dive operators on the islands I'd visited, telling them how to improve their businesses. I added that to the saga. And being into economic development here in New Hampshire, I saw lots of opportunities for the island leaders to attract more tourists and develop industries to pull their countries out of poverty. And most of them are deeply embedded in poverty. I added that to the saga too. I'll send the letters to the leaders, knowing they probably won't bother to read them.

Though these were mainly scuba diving trips, and thus you probably could care less about the adventures of frugal septuagenarian Uncle Wayne. Worse, the writing, according to my critics, is vintage Green. Pity. Well, anyone who reads this pile will certainly know Uncle Wayne better. Maybe I should start billing myself as Grandpa Wayne. Gramps.

When I get finished with the saga it'll probably run 80-100 pages. It'll cost something to print, so I can't just give it away free. How about \$5? For \$10 I could include pictures, but finding a reader with a spare \$10 bill is so unlikely that I didn't even consider that. Maybe, instead of buying popcorn at the movies next time you could spring for my *Caribbean Adventures*? It's amusing stuff.

But then you haven't bothered to send for my work of sheer (thin) genius, *We the People Declare war On Our Lousy Government*, wherein I presented you with the keys to solving most of our more serious social, economic, political, and ecological problems. Oh, a few readers have read it and I enjoyed their enthusiastic letters. I'll feel even better if I see some of them deciding to actually do something about cleaning up Congress, cutting crime, and improving our miserable school system. Politically I'm not ultra-right or ultra-left—maybe I'm ultra-center. No, I'm progressively pragmatic, wherever that fits.

Well, it's too late now. The 360-page book, plus twenty 16-page updates, are completely sold out. That's only semi too bad because I'll be updating it all. There are too many good ideas in there to let it all die. Both the book and the Updates, cover the things I discovered working with the Economic Development Commission.

The Secret Life of Plants

This is a fascinating book by Tompkins and Bird by Harper & Row Perennial Library (\$14). If your spirit of adventure hasn't been totally wiped out by our crummy so-called educational system, you'll enjoy this. One thing about the book worried me, I have to admit. The material was first published in 1972 in *Harpers*. Then it was published in 1973 in book form, and reprinted in paperback in 1989. So why haven't I seen follow-up books on such an important subject?

Much of the stuff in this book doesn't seem possible, which was another reason for my concern over its validity. Then a friend sent me a video on the subject he taped off the air, allowing me to see for myself some of the amazing experiments described in the book.

This all started when Cleve Backster, a polygraph expert and pioneer, connected a galvanometer to the leaf of his dracæna. He wanted to see if it would be affected when water was poured on the plant's roots. The meter's reaction wasn't what he expected. The trace zigged down instead of up, with a pattern very similar to his polygraph charts. Hmm. So Cleve decided to burn the leaf with a match and see what that would do. He was astounded to see the needle jump the instant he thought of burning the leaf. There was less of a jump when he actually burned the leaf. Could plants have some sort of extra sensory perception? You'll find the story of his research that resulted fascinating.

For instance, he found that when he had two plants together, with one wired to his galvanometer, when someone came into the lab and trashed the second plant the first reacted violently. Then later, when that person came back into the lab the plant again reacted violently. Somehow it not only was able to sense that particular person, but was able to remember the destruction of the first plant and indicate something akin to fear.

At the Hashimoto Electronics Research Center in Tokyo, Dr. Hashimoto was able to teach a plant to count and add up to twenty. I saw a video of a plant being taught to manipulate a galvanometer hooked to an audio oscillator and say letters.

And how about a scientist who was experimenting with a plant root. He had it in a shielded tube so he could aim it at other plants. One day he left the chart recorder on during his lunch break with the root pointed at the sky. Suddenly he heard whistles and a series of pulsations. He moved the tube around and found the "signals" were coming from outer space, from around Ursa Major (the Big Dipper). But you'll have to read about all this. I called Cleve and he said that as far as he knows no one has ever bothered to followed up on this!

Do trees and plants communicate with each other? Do they exhibit long-term memory? When a plant is taken away from a group can it die of loneliness? Can ultrasonic frequencies influence the growth of seeds? Can a healer affect the growth of seeds? Can a healer affect the growth of seeds merely by passing hands near the water used on the seeds? Can water be magnetized? Can a plant be conditioned to tell the difference between a piece of coal and a rock placed next to it? All these have been proven experimentally!

You'll be amazed at the work done in India by Sir Jagadis Bose a hundred years ago, despite the strong resistance of the British Royal Society. Botanists, in particular, hated the idea that plants have a nervous system, even though Bose proved it conclusively with his experiments.

Can people really talk with plants? Luther Burbank gave his plants most of the credit for his discoveries, saying that he took them into his confidence and had learned to listen to them. Another plant listener was George Washington Carver, who invented peanut butter, plus an endless number of other peanut products. Before Carver the peanut was considered worthless pig food.

Can music get plants to grow faster? 200 percent faster? And why do they grow toward classical music and away from rock—and then die? Well, that's my reaction too. They seem to like jazz too. You'll read a lot more about plants and music in Bird's *Secrets of the Soil*.

And what happens when you add some electricity to the pot when you're sprouting seeds? Would you believe the sprouts can grow five to seven times as fast? Jean Nolle demonstrated this in 1747. Of course if you want bigger and sweeter strawberries, this book may be of interest to you. How about a bean plant that grew to 22 feet high as the result of a pot being wired to an ordinary electric outlet? How about tons of seeds passed between the plates of a capacitor which then grew one third greater harvests in Italy in the 1930s? Corn yields jumped 20% in Russia in the 1960s with a similar treatment. And activated radishes double the size of the control crops?

And wait'll you read what being near a TV set or computer does to bean sprouts and rats! These are things you can test for yourself.

Then there are questions about the role of sunlight and our eyes on our behavior, which I've written about in my review of the Lieberman and Ott books on light.

You'll enjoy reading about how Harold Burr developed a very sensitive millivoltmeter for studying living things. With it he could detect the exact moment of ovulation for women, detect malignancies, the rate of healing of wounds, and with seeds he could predict how healthy the resulting plant would be. With plants he could see the changes made by the lunar cycle, sunspots, and solar storms.

There's a wonderful chapter on what's been done in the scientific investigation of auras and Kirlian photography.

Another chapter shows a parallel between the birth of retarded children and the use of chemical fertilizers. Just between 1952 and 1968 the number grew by 25 times! Plus there's been a similar rise in leukemia, hepatitis, Hodgkin's disease and other degenerative diseases. It's almost enough to get you to start buying from your supermarket's organic food section. Fifty years ago coronaries were rare. Cancer, diabetes, arthritis, cavities, etc., have been rapidly increasing.

Did you know that some plants and animals are able to transmute one element into another? Chickens, for instance, can change potassium, magnesium, and silicon into calcium. You can read more about this in Louis Kervran's book (it's reviewed in my *Secret Guide to Wisdom*) and one by Michio Kushi (also reviewed).

It's a terrific book. If you have any curiosity at all it should have you setting up your own research projects. I'll be doing my best to get in touch with the

authors to see what's been going on. I'll let you know. I'd love to see the books Bose published describing his experiments a hundred years ago. If you know of any more recent books along this line, please let me know about them.

The research described in the book gives us strong clues on how we can greatly reduce sickness and thus cut our health care costs. It can help us grow better crops. Check it out.

A Quote from *Forbes*.

In a *Forbes* column by Peter Huber he discussed the effect technology is having on us. For instance, when I was young we spent a lot of time in school on penmanship. Well, handwriting was how one communicated then. Typewriters were too expensive for most homes and typing wasn't even taught in school. Once typewriters were cheaper, the need for good penmanship disappeared. So did good penmanship.

Spelling was a big deal when I went to school. Now it's handled by my word processor, which catches my errors. Peter suggested that before long making kids memorize all the irregular spelling rules will be like making radio engineers learn the Morse Code. Heh.

We'll soon have automatic language translation, and computers with voice input. Look where we are with bar-code and checkout counters which add up the items, calculate the change due, debit the store inventory, and often are programmed to add in a few cents here and there to pad your bill and improve the store's profits. Fast food cash registers have pictures now instead of numbers, which is handy since fewer and fewer kids are being taught how to make change, and many are reading-challenged.

There used to be a good reason for memorizing the multiplication tables. Now, with calculators cheaply available, that's almost as antiquated a need as learning Morse Code for a ham license.

If you're into video you can have a complete video production lab at home and do what used to take millions of dollars in equipment all by yourself. In audio, DAT recorders are under \$1,000 and outperform a whole studio full of gear from just a few years ago. Gas stations let you pump your own and pay with a credit card, with no attendant needed. Well, we're a little behind on that one. I remember HB9RF doing that in Zurich over 20 years ago as we were driving to visit his moonbounce ham station.

I've replaced what was ten years ago a state-of-the-art \$500,000 computerized publishing production system with a new Macintosh \$50,000 desktop system. It does it better and faster. (Update 2000: now the little \$999 iMac and a \$150 Epson ink-jet printer can do the same job!)

Are you still writing by hand? You're two generations behind. I changed to typewriters as soon as I could, carrying portables with me on my trips 35 years ago. Then I changed to word processors, moving to a laptop system fifteen years ago, as soon as the first one was available. I moved from CW to voice in 1939—and from voice to radio teletype in 1949. I put up my first voice repeater in 1969. Our pioneering ham HTs and repeaters of 1970 are now used worldwide as cellular

telephone systems.

And look what's happened to those crude microcomputer kits we were playing with in 1975! Now we're using thousand dollar micros to replace million-dollar typesetting systems. One of the first ads for the MITS Altair 8800, the first practical microcomputer, appeared in 73, by the way.

Are you keeping up with technology? As a ham you're expected by the public to be knowledgeable about high-tech. Can you see where technology is taking us? All you have to do to get ahead of the game is know something like that before others do. Joe Sugarman W9IQO figured out that there would be a market for electronic gadgets, so he started selling them by mail as JS&A and made millions. Steve Jobs figured there was a market for a single board microcomputer, and didn't do badly. Bill Gates figured these micros would need operating systems and parlayed that idea into a few bil.

If you really want to feel bad you can dig out some old issues of 73 and read where I told anyone paying attention about those opportunities at the time. There are just as many opportunities today, if you think in those terms. Steve Jobs started out with nothing but a prototype built by Steve Wozniak. Bill Gates dropped out of Harvard to work for MITS, in Albuquerque, where the action was.

Communications, computers, information and transportation systems—all are changing. These changes, in turn, are changing businesses and industry. They're wiping out the need for so many management layers. They're making it possible (and that translates as necessary) to move manufacturing to lower wage countries.

We're in need of and ready for a major change in education which I expect will generate a few more billionaires. Ditto health care, which is a \$1.5 trillion industry, and growing fast. How close are you to the change? Close enough to benefit?

Of course this means that you're going to have to actually *do* something. You're going to have to spend time learning and perhaps experimenting. It is pathetically easy to become an expert in a new technology. It just takes an interest and some dedication.

When I heard the first radio Teletype (RTTY) signal on my 2m receiver I wondered what in hell that strange beedly-beep sound was and started asking questions. That lead me to John Williams W2BFD, the grandfather of ham RTTY. I built the circuit he'd developed, bought an old 1920s vintage Model 12 Teletype machine from him, and was on my way. I read all I could find, asked endless questions, and experimented. The next thing I knew I was the expert and writing the first book on the subject.

In my editorials I'm endlessly pointing out new areas of technology that are wide open for development and which offer great promise for building new businesses. I've been writing recently about cold fusion. I expect this to turn into a trillion-dollar industry within a few years, sweeping some of the pioneers along into billionaires. It'll not only wipe out established businesses that ignore it, but many of the pioneers who don't keep their eyes open to how the field is developing.

Many of the microcomputer pioneers went under because they stopped keeping their eyes on the future and thus weren't sensitive to changes. I tried hard to convince John Roach, the president of Tandy, that the future of personal computers lay in

making them with open systems so that third party firms could support them with software and accessories. Roach wouldn't listen, wanting to make sure that Radio Shack sold all their own software, printers, disk drives, and so on for their computer and this cost Tandy tens of billions. It was Roach who was far more responsible for the success of IBM and their PC than IBM was. IBM should give him a medal.

The opportunities are there. They are sitting there just waiting for anyone with the interest to pioneer and reap the rewards. Sure, it takes work. It means learning. One thing it doesn't take is much money. Bill Gates didn't have any money when he approached Ed Roberts at MITS with the BASIC interpreter he'd cobbled together. Steve Jobs didn't have the airfare to fly to the Atlantic City computer show with his Apple I prototype in 1976. The two guys who started Electro-Voice started in a garage, just like Jobs and Wozniak.

The question then is: are you willing to learn? Are you willing to work? Or are you too busy watching ball games on TV? Instead you could be learning about spread-spectrum communications, data compacting algorithms, or maybe how to load hydrogen into nickel to generate heat, and then start working on ways to control the process and use it for heating systems and to generate electricity.

Presumably, since amateur radio is supposed to be a technical hobby, hams have some grounding in electronics. That's a good start, but why stop there? Oh well, it's your life. If you're already making enough money, don't have any interest in helping civilization progress, and don't get fun and excitement from pioneering, then sit back with a beer and pretzels and enjoy. Emulate Homer Simpson and Barney. Let others develop better fox hunting receivers. Let others put up cross-band repeaters. Let others run your local radio club. Let others Elmer newcomers. Let others develop better, faster packet systems. Let others write the articles you're reading.

All it takes to get way out in front of any group is perseverance.

Where Has English Gone?

Hams can't help making fun of CB jargon—right, good buddy? Yet we've got our own private language and we immediately recognize a newcomer who isn't fluent in our Q-signal shorthand. It's always seemed odd to me when hams use Q-signals on voice. They were invented to try and mercifully speed up our pathetically slow CW contacts—or QSOs, as you probably call them.

When I got involved with computers I had to learn a whole new language. I found that most computer folk had little residual fluency in plain English and thus were no longer able to interface with ordinary people.

Lawyers have their own language, if you've ever read any legal papers. Politicians have theirs. It's interesting trying to translate the weird language of our laws into something the rest of us can understand. And I wish I'd had a tape recorder along on an around-the-world flight on a Military Air Transport Service plane, just to capture the fascinating language of the PR officer who accompanied us.

I read a lot of magazines, so I have to be able to interpret computerese, legalese, governmentese, medicalese, hamese, hi-fi-ese, and educationese. It's a

challenge to try and figure out what some professor is trying to say. For instance, in the latest *Kappan* professor Dempster writes, "Research has shown that, under certain conditions, practice may either reduce the effects of interference or result in proactive or retroactive facilitation of learning." What did he say? And he goes on for five pages of this gobbledegook, plus a half page of references.

Several years ago it seemed to me that businessmen might like to have a way to learn about computers without having to learn computerese. So I started a new magazine, *Desktop Computing*. It was a tussle getting the writers to stick to English, and even more difficult to find editors capable of translating computerese into English. But we did it and the readers loved the publication. Alas, when I sold my publishing company in 1983, I had no way to continue doing the magazine, so I sold it along with all the others. The new publisher, being totally involved with computers, quickly killed it off.

For my part, when I'm on the air I avoid jargon and stick to plain English. I have problems with interference, not QRM. I go to bed instead of modulating the mattress. I answer the phone instead of the land-line. But then I am very resistant to talking about my transceiver and antenna, much preferring to talk about what the other chap does, what else he's interested in, what he likes about where he lives and so on. You probably wouldn't like it at all.

Fear or Laziness?

A phone call from a reader the other day almost got me to thinking. Close call. He wanted my advice on how he could get started with a business of his own in his spare time. I quickly put on my consultant's hat (it covers my receding hair line and makes me feel younger) and gave him his money's worth.

I suppose, considering the price, zippo, I should have recommended that he make his fortune by selling subscriptions to *73*. Or by writing articles for same. Well, at least one author, Jim Kyle K5JKX, bought his house just on our article payments and the book royalties from his books which we published.

We discussed my callers total lack of qualifications in a wide variety of pursuits before deciding that perhaps his interest in amateur radio might be put to some use. Unless he fudged (cheated) on the exam, he should know the fundamentals of electronics, so why not get started doing something electrical? Like, for instance, fixing VCRs. Well, okay, picky-picky, so 90% of VCR servicing is mechanical. But at least an understanding of electrical contraptions gives one the courage to take the lid off a VCR and peer inside.

Since I've seen several books advertised on fixing VCRS, I suggested that anyone who is going to fix VCRs should buy every book he can find. Why? Because VCRs break. They all break! And because most service shops want an arm and a leg to fix 'em, with the result that many of them get put on a shelf somewhere when they jam and people just go out and buy a new one. Why spend \$90 to get an old VCR fixed when new ones are running as low as \$70 these days? New ones with more features.

What I explained to my caller holds for anyone interested in becoming

independent. If you can fix 'em for \$25 to \$30, you'll soon be up to here in VCRs. Once you get the hang of fixing the mechanisms so they don't jam or wreck the tapes, you'll be on the road to riches. Let's see, three or four an evening will net an extra \$100 or so. If you do that five days a week, that's at least \$500. Plus maybe a dozen on Saturday for another \$300. That looks a lot like an extra \$40,000 a year. Yes, it's a cash business, but you should declare all that extra income and pay the stiff income taxes. That'll put you in a much higher tax bracket so you'll probably only end up keeping \$20,000 of it. But cheer yourself up knowing that 23¢ of each tax dollar you donate will go from Washington to someone like me, to pay Social Security checks. The Treasury has to collect about \$73,000 in taxes just to take care of poor ol' Uncle Wayne's Social Security payments, so you'd damn well better own up to all that extra dough you're making so I don't get shortchanged.

Small ads in the local classifieds, direct mail to neighbors, your business card on local bulletin boards, and so on will get the word out.

Once you get good at fixing VCRs you can add more gadgets to the list. If you aren't confident enough to tackle TVs yet, how about hi-fi systems? CD players are mechanical and thus they break. They break a lot. Anything mechanical does. So buy a book or four on fixing CD players.

The next thing you know you'll be up to here in audio and VCRs and looking for an assistant to help. You might even decide to quit that stupid day job. Or, you may be afraid to even try something like this. Fear of the unknown can be a powerful deterrent.

Computers

Every business of any size has a storeroom with an accumulation of broken PCs, monitors, keyboards and printers. These things are duck soup to fix most of the time. It's usually the disk drives or a broken key switch. That mechanical stuff again. With most computer service shops charging \$50 to \$75 an hour, you can move in at \$25 an hour and clean up. Let's see, if you only put in 20 spare-time hours a week, that's \$500. Well, actually it's probably more like \$1,000, because it won't take very long to put in a replacement disk drive and check out the system. And once you've fixed a couple dozen monitors you'll know what the usual trouble is with them. Ditto printers.

Unless you are really in the sticks, there are hundreds of broken PCs and printers within a few minutes drive of your home repair shop. Peterborough is a town of under 5,000, but I'll bet them are at least a thousand PCs in use in the area (and more probably double that if we count home computers), with around 25% needing service at least once a year. Let's see, how many computers do I have at home? Hmmm, I count at least a couple dozen I can think of off hand. Well, actually, only about eight are in regular use. And there are at least 20 PCs at the office in a store room waiting to be fixed.

If you get into the business of upgrading PCs and Macs with bigger disk drives and more memory, you'll soon have your own delivery vans and employees.

Security

For years I've been recommending the sales, installation, and service of home and business security systems as a gold mine. Many hams have taken me up on that, first as a spare-time sideline, and then as a full-time business. Ham slow-scan technology is very handy to know for this business. Owners can be set up so they can watch their office or warehouse from home at night. If there's an alarm the owner can then quickly check the monitor at home to see what's going on.

The market for security systems is almost unlimited and there are some great catalogs of stuff you can buy.

If you're into cars, there's a whole world of car security systems to sell, install, and service. Then you'll probably get involved with car custom audio systems, another big business.

Free-Lance Opportunities

Almost every business has opportunities for free-lancers to make money. For instance, I've got a recording studio that needs to be marketed. Someone living in this area could do well just advertising and booking recording sessions for it. Then I've a warehouse with around 150,000 CDs of absolutely fabulous music I'd love to sell, but I need to find someone interested in working on a commission basis. Just about any business has a need for help if you can get an opportunity to talk with the boss. Offer to help on a straight commission basis. In that way the boss can't lose. If you don't win, it's because you haven't produced, in which case, if you'd been hired for a salary, you would have been cheating your employer.

I have several products that someone could promote and sell for a commission. We'd both win. Heck, I'd love to expand 73 magazine, but to do that I need to find a tech editor to help me get more good articles. And someone is needed to help sell more advertising. It would be great to get 73 back up to 200 pages a month! And I'm really fed up with depending on an outside fulfillment service to handle our subscriptions, so I need someone who either is experienced in that field, or who really would like to learn. I doubt that I'm any different from most of the other businesses around here. Or anywhere.

It would be worth a good deal to me if someone would get me talk radio gigs to promote my books. There are thousands of talk shows, so a good salesman could keep me busy seven days a week guesting on these shows. Then I'd need help in printing and mailing my books.

Every company has a bunch of things that should be done, but aren't. You just have to cozy up to the owner and find out what they are. The opportunities are endless, and every one of them will be a valuable learning experience.

Giving Bill Gates A Run

Maybe this penny-ante stuff is too simple for you. Why not go for the big

bucks? Yes, of course there are billions still to be made in computers. Hey, no fair telling Chairman Bill about this approach. He's now the richest guy in America.

There's a wide open gap for someone to get in there and clean up. One person could do it, but I did recommend this approach as a way for IBM to rebuild their empire. Lucky for you, no one in the IBM management reads their mail, or magazine editorials. Or my *Declare War* book, where I've gone into detail on this incredible undeveloped niche.

The basic idea is to approach some specific type of business and custom tailor a software package for that business. Once it's tested and bug-free, it's time to sell the package to similar businesses all around the country. This would work for dentists, lumber yards, oil companies, and so on. Just look through the Yellow Pages and get started.

An entrepreneur could get together with a good programmer and get started with the first product in this niche. Then they'd develop the distribution and support network for it and then get started on product number two.

I remember when personal computers were just getting started and I figured they'd need a completely new approach for marketing software. Until then all software had been custom fitted to a mainframe or minicomputer and cost about the same as the hardware. But with mass-produced computers selling for a tenth the cost of minicomputers, I knew we'd need mass-produced software to bring the software costs down 90% too.

So I set up a software development lab with 30 microcomputers in what had been the restaurant section of an motel I'd bought to use for offices. The dozen motel rooms were turned into offices, each with a bathroom and shower. The software was written by my computer magazine readers and then developed into commercial products in our lab by a team of programmers. We were one of the first companies to do this.

The product was Instant Software and we did well with it. By 1983 we had over 250 products we were selling, with sales offices in Europe. We had some super business software, plenty of games, some great educational programs (we won prizes).

So what happened to all that? When I sold my computer magazines, all my five buildings and staff went with them. The buyer, IDG (*Computerworld*) didn't want to bother with software—they were magazine publishers, not entrepreneurs. Without the building, the lab, and the magazines to help bring in free-lance software and advertise the product, I decided to give it up. I had my hands full trying to hire a completely new staff, set up a whole new publishing company to start *CD Review*, and even find a suitable new building. I'd bought every available business building in Peterborough, so when I sold the lot to IDG I ended up buying a small building in North Peterborough to hold me until I could rebuild an old factory building in Hancock, five miles further north.

It was over a year before I had enough space to even consider getting back into the software development business, but by then I was too busy promoting One-Write-Plus, an accounting package, starting to build a chain of software stores, and publishing *CD Review*.

Slow Poison

There's a growing backlash against politically correct writing. Calling prisons "correctional institutions" is stupid. Prisons don't correct. They aren't designed or organized to correct. They're for punishment. Ditto our so-called Defense Department. It used to be the War Department, but that was back when mental hospitals were called insane asylums.

Which brings me to health care. Har-de-har. Few (if any) people will spend ten cents or spend a minute to be healthy, so there's little money in it. But when people get seriously sick, they'll spend everything they've got or can borrow to get over being sick. So, that's where the money is. Big money.

Our "health care" industry is run by doctors who haven't a clue about how to stay healthy. They're trained to look at symptoms, diagnose, and then use chemicals or knives to alleviate the symptoms, not the causes. Our medical schools don't teach health or sickness avoidance, except the use of vaccines.

One result of all this, plus the normal "I'm going to live forever" attitude, which is particularly strong with teenagers, but doesn't fade away much with age—at least until a big enough sickness arrives to force a reconsideration of mortality—is our ability to live comfortably while dosing ourselves with a whole range of slow poisons. Like what? Cigarettes, alcohol, caffeine, polluted air, chlorine and fluorides in our water, magnetic radiation, negative dispositions, dental amalgam fillings, root canals, aspartame in our drinks, "recreational drugs," uppers, downers, Prozac, a Whopper & fries, even sugar—stuff like that. They're all slow poisons.

No, the magnetic field (EMF) radiation you get sitting near your TV isn't going to kill you soon. Neither is smoking one pack of cigarettes or snorting one line of coke. One can of Diet Coke is unlikely to kill you, unless someone throws it. Nor one Big Mac, unless you choke on it.

Yes, I'm aiming right at the heart of American culture. World culture, really. Well, how many people in their 50s do you know who are in robust health and look 20 years younger? And how many have heart disease, arthritis, bad backs, cancer, Alzheimer's, ulcers, Parkinson's, diabetes, a great big fat constipated gut hanging out over their belt, emphysema, or are grossly overweight, and so on? The evidence is overwhelming that these, and virtually every other sickness, comes from our slowly poisoning ourselves.

Yes, I know about germs. You want to know more about germs? Well, do some reading. Find out what Royal Rife (*The Cancer Cure That Worked*, Barry Lynes, 1987, 168p, \$16, ISBN 0-919951-30-9, Marcus Books, Box 327, Queensville, Ontario, Can. LOG 1R0, 416-478-2201), Gaston Naessens (see later), Antoine Béchamp (*Pasteur Exposed*, Ethel Hume, 1923-1989, 260p, \$22, Bookreal, 8 Millar St., Denmark, WA 6333, Australia) discovered about them. In the meanwhile, consider that even in the worst of epidemics, there are some people who don't get sick. It has, of course, to do with our immune systems.

The end result of our slowly poisoning ourselves is that when I go to a reunion of my old WWII submarine crew, more than half have already died, and the rest

don't look all that good. I did see a few healthy-looking old-timers at Dayton, but not many. More obvious were the 11-months pregnant old men. What ever happened to that old-fashioned concept of an ounce of prevention?

If you're in your 30s, are you aiming at death in 20, 30, 40, or 70 years? Choose your poisons. There are little groups of people here and there around the world who are living healthily into their 100s. Yes, of course scientists have discovered their "secret," but I'll bet you've never read about these discoveries.

If you can stop from slowly poisoning yourself, you'll have a better chance at inflicting your crazy ideas on your great grandchildren. Your immune system starts out strong, unless you are bottle fed, but it eventually gets poisoned so badly that you are wide open to any bug or virus that comes along, or it can trigger a genetic weakness. Your calcium-phosphorous ratio may swing one way or the other, depositing calcium where it hurts, or leaching it out of your bones, porosing you.

In The Beginning

The human body, despite what you may believe from the Bible, has slowly developed over millions of years. It was developed to work in conjunction with the environment. I hope that makes sense. Now, think about what the environment was a hundred thousand, a million, five million years ago. Man ate food, drank water, and was exposed to sunlight. Until just a few thousand years ago man ate raw food, like all other animals. A French doctor got the totally crazy idea that maybe eating cooked food was causing some of our health problems. After all, it takes more than a few thousand years for our bodies to adapt to a major change in food like that.

So he first tested this outrageous theory on animals. What do you know, those fed raw food were healthy. Those fed cooked food got human ailments. Not being overly dumb, he then tried this radical approach to health on some dying patients. He got them to stop eating French cuisine and eat only raw food. Meat, fish, veggies, fruits, nuts. You got it, even those patients who were next to death's door started getting better. Cancer, AIDS, acne, tennis elbow, and so on. When I read about that it was almost enough to make me think. But let's not let this startling information get out. We don't want to destroy the great American food industry, right? Hey, I'm looking into your grocery carts at the supermarket, I know what kind of garbage you're buying for your family to eat.

What would happen if everyone started eating raw food? General Mills would be demoted to Private. Battle Creek would be demoted to Skirmish Brook. We could probably close down 90% of our hospitals and senior rest homes, move the retirement age up to 92, and so on. It'll never happen. We see ever more kids starting to smoke, building a lifetime addiction to a deadly poison. Ditto beer. No, until the accumulated poisons of decades knocks people down, they'll live for today and ignore the future.

That's the way my father lived, smoking Camels for years. But he spent the last 20 years of his life (after he'd stopped smoking) suffering from emphysema. The last couple of years he had less than 10% of his lungs still working and had to

have an oxygen bottle at hand 24 hours a day.

Sure, he knew how bad cigarettes were. Even when he was young they called 'em coffin nails.

As for me, I'm shopping mostly in the organic food section of the supermarket. I load up on fruits and veggies. I do enjoy dipping veggies in some curried yogurt. Nuts and raisins make a great snack. I'm fortunate to live on a farm and thus have good well water so I don't need to buy a purifier to get rid of the chlorine and fluorine most city water supplies provide. And I get out there every morning, getting those UVs into my eyes and fast walking a couple miles up and down the New Hampshire hills. We have no air pollution up here. So, unless Nabisco puts out a contract on me for upsetting their poison apple cart, I may be a persistent nuisance for quite a while.

Good Reading

One of the benefits of my getting away from the office and out to give talks or attend scientific conferences is the opportunity to catch up on my reading. I read in the car while Sherry drives. I read in airport lounges, while flying, and in hotel rooms in the evenings.

There are three outstanding books that I've read recently. First, there's *Maximize Immunity*, by Bruno Comby (1994, 265p, ISBN 0-9819951-11-2, Marcus Books. This is the French doctor who discovered the amazing ability of the immune system to rebuild itself, even after years poisoning—by switching to raw food. This is a must read. The subtitle is, "Unleash your body's best defense against illness."

Another very exciting book is, *Secrets of the Soil* by Chris Bird (1989, 444p, ISBN 0-06-091968-X, Harper & Row, \$15). This book covers so many things I could write a 16-page booklet just discussing the many topics. Like using music to make plants grow, the destructive use of pesticides and chemicals on our farms and how to avoid insect destruction to organic farms. The magic of magnetized water. It's a thick book and it'll have you wearing out your highlighter.

Then there's *Young Again*, by John Thomas, (1994, 384p, ISBN 1-884757-75-8, Plexus Press, Box 827, Kelso WA 98626-0072, 206-423-3168, \$20). The subtitle is, "A personal guide to ageless living - How to reverse the aging process." Sounds good, eh? Well, it sounds good when you look around and half of your peers are dead and the rest are doddering on their last legs. About the only place I feel young these days is when I give a talk to a ham club and find I'm the youngest one there.

If you want to find out more about germs and how a Canadian doctor discovered how to beat the auto-immune system, making it so you'll eventually be able to avoid organ rejection after you've poisoned an organ to death and have to replace it with a borrowed one, you want to get a copy of. *The Persecution and Trial of Gaston Naessens* by Chris Bird, (1991, 320p, ISBN 0-915811-30-8, H.J. Kramer, Box 1082, Tiburon CA 94920, 415-435-5367, \$13). You'll also read the extent to which the Canadian medical system and government went to stop Naessens from curing cancers.

The "health" business is just that, a business. It's all about money. When I approach AIDS workers with the news that I have a simple, inexpensive way to tackle AIDS they get all upset. AIDS is incurable, they shriek at me. Well, there are millions of dollars flowing through the medical system dependent on just that. And what would happen to the National Cancer Institute if it were known that there is a simple, inexpensive cure?

If I had cancer I'd quickly get a bioelectrifier and get my immune system up to strength. Then I'd run, not walk, to find out more about *essiac*, the Canadian herbal remedy. You might want to look for Richard Thomas' *The Essiac Report*, 100p plus around 150 pages of testimonials, ISBN 0-9639818-0-3, ATIN, 1244 Ozeta Terrace, Los Angeles CA 90069, 310-278-6611, \$20. I'd also get in touch with some of the medical groups working with Dr. Naessens' 714-X, as explained in the book. But then, it's your life to do with as you wish, so you can depend on your good old doctor if you want. But I'll bet he doesn't know squat about any of the alternatives to drugs, chemotherapy, and surgery.

The Cabal

Unless the many people I've met in the alternative medicine field are all suffering from paranoid delusions, which I doubt, there is a nasty collaboration between the AMA, the FDA, the pharmaceutical companies, and the insurance industry to maintain the status quo. Well, it's a \$1.5 trillion industry, so I can understand why everyone involved would be resistant to change. Any low-cost cure for a dread illness would cut revenues for everyone.

Now, if Comby is right about a totally raw food diet being able to strengthen the immune system enough so it can fight off illnesses of all kinds, and the word starts getting out, think what that could do to the whole medical industry! Oh, we'd still need a few doctors and hospitals for knife and gunshot wounds, as well as car accidents, and other emergencies. But most of the drug companies would go out of business, as well as the big food companies. So, if you think the current campaign by the electric companies to poo-poo EMF dangers is impressive, wait'll you see the number of doctors the health care and food industries can line up to warn against the dangers of eating raw food. Hey, pass me another carrot—they're pretty good, even without salt.

The usual serendipity brought in a copy of the Marion Dow newsletter, "CardiSense," which had a feature article on food, pointing out that until very recently man (and woman) has eaten meat, fish, vegetables and fruits. No milk or bread products. No alcohol. And these early societies did not have "civilization diseases" such as cancer, heart disease, stroke, diabetes, and high blood pressure. You know, all those things you have.

It also pointed out that while chicken can be good food, you want to buy only free ranging chickens and not the fat-bloated chickens doped with hormones, antibiotics, and tranquilizers you see piled high on most supermarket counters. And steer (pardon) clear of beef, which has been specially bred to kill you with extra fat. Thank heavens for a handful of fanatics who have been pioneering

organically grown foods. Wait'll you read that *Secrets of the Soil!*

All you have to do is stand near a supermarket checkout counter and watch the people going by and what they are buying to see why they look the way they do. And why you look the way you do, too.

Had Your Heart Attack Yet?

You'd better read *Left For Dead* by Dick Quinn, 1992, 200p, ISBN 0-9632839-0-1, \$13, Quinn Publishing, Box 17100, Minneapolis MN 55417, 800-283-3998. Dick had his heart attack and had the usual bypass surgery. But it didn't help him, so his doctor wanted to do a few more. Then Dick found out about cayenne pepper and cured himself and everyone he could talk to. You should read his book. If you do, you'll be looking around for cayenne pepper too. Hey, it only burns twice, and it provides a clear marker for how long your digestive system takes to process a meal.

It wouldn't hurt to look for a good book or two on chelation. I was suspicious of it at first, but the more I've read, the more it looks like a good approach to getting your arteries cleaned out. Check out *Forty Something Forever*, by Harold & Arline Brecher, subtitled "A consumer's guide to chelation therapy and other heart-savers." 1992, 377p, ISBN 0927839-46-6, \$7, Healthsavers Press, Box 683, Herndon VA 22070, 703-471-4734.

And if you think I'm exaggerating about the medical establishment fighting anything new or different, you want to read, *Racketeering In Medicine*, by Dr. James Carter, 1992, 363p, ISBN 1-878901-32-X, \$13, Hampton Roads Publishing, 891 Norfolk Square, Norfolk VA 23502, 804-459-2453. Read about how the medical establishment, hand-in-hand with the FDA, has done a job on acupuncture, nutrition, chelation, chiropractic, homeopathy, osteopathy, etc.

Anyway, I highly recommend you read Dick's book before you have your heart attack and a series of mostly useless, but very expensive bypasses. Or die.

Real Research Needed

I don't know which of the endless nostrums I get promotions about in the mail are worthwhile and which aren't. But I also haven't seen any sign that our medical establishment is making any effort to check them out.

Oh, I can understand. The worst nightmare for the National Cancer Institute would be a cancer cure. And what would happen to the \$200 billion pharmaceutical industry if raw food really does prevent almost all illnesses, and we're somehow able to convince people to eat it? So, when I read about doctors having success with alternative approaches, complete with endless testimonials from people who were at death's door, I want to know more, and cut the self-serving baloney.

How efficacious are chlorella, saw palmetto, echinacea, kombucha, ginger, garlic, cayenne, hydrogen peroxide, chromium picolinate, silver colloids, ginkgo biloba, ginseng, gero vita, and so on? The National Institute of Health (NIH) has set up a department to check out these and all the other nostrums, but I haven't

seen any sign of action yet—and I'll bet I never will.

If you find any books you think I should read, please let me know. And I'll review and recommend those I find which impress me most favorably.

Hey, you know, once you get used to eating raw food and figure out how to fix it to make it taste good, it's great stuff!

AIDS-SchmAIDS

For most of us AIDS is either a very remote or a non-worry. Our homosexual brethren probably are more interested. I'm concerned because I hate to see people dying young unnecessarily, even though it helps save our so-called Social Security system from an early collapse. That's why I've been writing about health demoters such as fat, cigarettes, booze, and other such slow poisons.

Yes, I've been reading again. It's another book by Dr. William Douglass (Second Opinion Newsletter). This is on AIDS and he confirms some ridiculous rumors I've heard, but dismissed as the usual paranoia from Chicken Littles.

Douglass points out that AIDS started simultaneously in several African states, Haiti, and Brazil. Now, by a very curious coincidence, these are exactly the same places where the World Health Organization (WHO) launched smallpox vaccine campaigns. Further, Douglass shows that the virus could not have come from animals (or a monkey), but had to have been designed and engineered for humans. In the 1972 Federation Proceedings WHO suggested that a neat way to test immunity-suppression systems would be to introduce them via a vaccination program. Douglass says the epidemic didn't come from a monkey, it came from the labs at Fort Detrick, Maryland.

If AIDS had started, as claimed, from one monkey bite, the most cases that could be expected to have developed from that would be about 8,000, and not millions of infected people. Well, this certainly is one way to clear out a lot of Africans. And homosexuals, if that is the secret plan.

In New York, the head of the city blood bank set up a hepatitis vaccine study which curiously targeted males between 20 and 40 who were not monogamous. It now appears that 100% of those participating were infected with the AIDS virus. But heck, you can read the report for yourself: Second Opinion 800-728-2288, \$9.

In the meanwhile I've read several books by doctors claiming to cure AIDS using UV light, oxygen, herbs, a raw food diet, and so on, and I have yet to hear from or about anyone who has failed to recover after using the simple, and inexpensive blood purifier I've written about.

If you want to know more about this blood purifier you'll want to send for my Bioelectrifier Handbook (\$10). This has the original Beck circuit, plus a more up to date version reprinted from an article in 73. This device, which uses about \$20 in electronic parts, cannot legally be made or sold, since it's not approved by the FDA. But there's a \$155 Plant Growth Stimulator with the same circuit which can be adapted for use as a Bioelectrifier. This system of blood purification, according to the two doctors at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine who discovered this approach, will prevent any virus, microbe, yeast, fungus or parasite from replicat-

ing or attaching itself to the white cells, thus killing these unwanted residents. This, in turn, allows the immune system to regain enough strength to fight cancers and other body repair and maintenance problems. Of course, if you continue to put poisons into your body, these will depress the immune system and sickness is the result. The Bioelectrifier is like an industrial strength cleaning system for the blood.

Plant Growth Stimulators can be built by experienced electronic hobbyists, or purchased from Butterfly Products, Box 1729, Hillsborough NH 03244, or by calling 603-588-2105 with a MC/Visa card. The unit also includes a provision for making silver colloid solution, complete with the necessary pure silver wire.

Death By Government

The more I read about the things our government is doing to us, the more discouraged I get. Not just that it's happening, but that we, the people they are supposedly serving, let it happen in the first place, and then, even after we find out about what's happened, we don't make any serious effort to stop it. I've written about how our government is allowing our dentists to continue to put dental amalgam in our mouths, and our children's, even though it's 50% mercury, which is acknowledged to be a deadly poison, which is causing terrible health problems for millions of people. I've written about vaccinations and the trail of death and sickness they're leaving, with there not being one shred of scientific proof that they work.

When I was a lot younger I remember the fight a few extremists put up against our city governments fluoridating our water. Bunch of kooks, we were told by the media. Well, I know you're not going to believe this, but it turns out the kooks were right, for a change. There are any number of scientific studies which show that (a) fluoridating us does not help fight tooth decay, and (b) the fluoridation is doing everyone exposed to it serious harm.

Sure, only a small percentage of the children who get their teeth swabbed with a fluoride solution by dentists or their dental assistants die from it. I suppose that's an acceptable loss, as long as it isn't your child. And it's not enough so the doctors can't cover it up to avoid lawsuits.

In areas where the water has been fluoridated the cancer rate has increased substantially. In high fluoride areas the people age prematurely, their teeth drop out, and their bones get very brittle. Even minor shocks can cause a hip fracture, which in an elderly person is virtually a death sentence.

How about the three-year-old child who had his teeth swabbed at a clinic. The nurse gave him a glass of water to rinse out his mouth and turned away to gossip with someone. The child drank the water and was dead in a few hours.

There goes Wayne with his hyperbole of gloom and doom, right? Hey, don't believe me. But do get a copy of *Fluoride, The Aging Factor*, by Dr. Yiamouyiannis, Health Action Press, ISBN 0-913571-03-2, 292p, \$15 and do your own homework. He's got all the research data there for you. I'm not exaggerating, I'm understating the situation. Yes, your government is, in many cities, pouring this poison into your water supply. And this poison is not only causing a wide range of illnesses, it is also causing chromosomal damage which is then passed on to your children, and

then on to theirs. Cities and towns are adding from 0.6 ppm to as high as 8.0 ppm of fluoride to your water.

How do you get away from it? A home still helps. I've been drinking bottled distilled water for some time now, and am getting my own still. How about Coke? The stuff is packed with fluoride (2.56 ppm). So is Diet Coke (2.96 ppm, and it only takes 0.5 ppm to cause serious trouble). And it has aspartame, to further derail your body's ability to cope with life.

Freedom

For a country that prides itself on and preaches freedom, we have an awful lot of tyranny going on. I think I can even make a good case for liberals being disciples of the Devil. All those things that our beloved government legislates "for our own good" are my beef.

Like what? Like vaccinations, fluorides in our water supply, seat belt laws, helmet laws, and so on. I've written about vaccinations, which besides not working, are causing life-long health problems for many people. I wish that Congress and the state legislatures would stop using the law to do things for my good. All I need is the information and then the freedom to make my own decisions.

Sure, seat belts save lives, but if I'm dumb enough to not use them, then that should be *my* decision. Mother Nature (aka God) has a system that has worked for millions of years. Billions. It's called natural selection, or the survival of the fittest. So, if I'm dumb enough to not wear a helmet on my scooter or a seat belt in my car, if I get killed that will tend to weed out that kind of dumbness. By forcing me to live longer and thus be able to have more children, the government is going against God and weakening the human race.

How about so-called Social Security? It was originally set up as a way for the government to take in more money, pretending it was insurance instead of increased taxes. It's still taking in billions more than it's spending and Congress is "borrowing" the surplus and spending it, leaving only a worthless IOU. If it was a voluntary system I'd have no complaint. But it's mandatory, and that's not my idea of freedom. Sure, it's "for my own good." If I'm dumb enough not to provide for my old age, the government will support me. The result of that is that a lot of people don't provide for their old age in some other much cheaper way.

Please stop Congress from making laws to protect me from my own stupidity.

Magnetic Power

There's what has given me the impression of a lunatic fringe lurking just outside the cold fusion field, probably attracted by visions of yet another source of free energy. Some of them are believers in the magical abilities of certain type of coils to generate an anti-gravity force. Others are firm believers in what they call zero-point energy. This has to do with being able to tap what they believe is an enormous amount of energy that exists in the "ether," a.k.a., space. Not being able to grasp the concepts involved, I've been awaiting something more substantial than the

emotional writings of the True Believers to convince me, thus irritating the hell out of them. But then I've never been swayed by the emotional attacks from True Believers, whether they be proslytizing or defending a religion, the ARRL, CW, or some imagined potential ecological disaster.

If these so-called "N-machines," which are powered by magnets, are so great, let's see one working, was my pragmatic approach. A reader from California called to say that he had followed up every reported working N-machine in the world and had yet to find one that would work when he was watching.

Thus, when I recently got a press release about a coming demonstration by Yasunori Takahashi of a working N-machine in Switzerland I faxed the London source of the release, asking for more information. I remembered getting a story several months ago about a Takahashi magnetic motor and its use in a scooter, so this seemed worth looking into. A return fax said the Swiss demo had been cancelled. Hmm.

A few days before Thanksgiving Sherry said why don't we zip over to London for the weekend? We'd done this several times in the past, flying over on Wednesday evening and back on Sunday, thus not even missing a day's work. Several airlines have amazingly low cost package tours—if you call around \$600 for the round trip, including ground transportation, hotel, and a London show, low cost. That's about what it would cost to stay in a New York hotel for three days, and never mind the meals or a show. So I set up a meeting with the London Takahashi representative for Friday.

We'd gone via TWA in the past, but this time we tried British Air. Never again. Oh, the trip over was all okay, but they got us to the Royal National hotel by around 9 am Thursday and the crummy hotel wouldn't give us a room until after 2 pm. Not having been able to get much sleep in the cramped plane seats, we were in lousy shape to sight-see London. We were tired and we needed to sleep!

We took the underground downtown to see some tourist attractions for which we'd been given free tickets. When we got to the Tower of London, it was closed. Ditto the Banqueting House. We did see a few minutes of the Queen's Horse Guards on parade (no tickets required), and then we walked a couple of miles back to the hotel, checking on what shows were running as we passed the theaters. None of the shows looked very good so we tossed a mental coin, which came up tails, and traded in our coupons for tickets to Funny Money. When we got back to the hotel we sat. And sat. At two we got our room and crashed, leaving a call so we wouldn't miss the play.

The play was surprisingly terrible. I've seen far better on some silly British shows on PBS. But it wasn't much worse than the show we caught when we stopped by London on our way to Paris and Monaco for the March cold fusion conference. It was a comedy. I almost laughed a couple of times.

The next morning we went down to the hotel's \$18 English breakfast which was included free with the tour. Major bummer. The oatmeal was cold. The poached eggs like rocks. The toast cold. The bangers yuuck. The stewed prunes hadn't been stewed. The OJ had an almost detectable orange flavor.

We've done this London Thanksgiving tour thing many times, and TWA has

always put us in top-notch hotels with superb food. Thanks BA for finding this hell hole for us. Everything about the hotel was cheap and shoddy (with an "o").

After we recovered from the breakfast we took the underground to the suburbs and were met at the station by Takeo Sawai, who drove to his home. There I was introduced to the Takahashi scooter. It had a small battery, used to get it started. Once running, Takeo explained, the electric motor-generator takes over and runs the scooter, as well as recharging the battery. Yep, the motor runs a generator which then completely ignores the laws of physics by generating enough current to run the scooter and recharge the battery. Perpetual motion seemed to be here.

This is, obviously, impossible. And the fact that the scooter could carry two heavy men uphill at a very brisk speed meant that some clever magic was being used. I put on a helmet, climbed on, and zoomed away, dodging oncoming traffic, as I sped around the London streets. Hey, this thing sure has a lot of pickup. It seems to have more power than my Yamaha scooter, which is no slouch.

The secret is in the magnets built into the motor. These are no ordinary magnets. I brought a few home to astound people with their power. I let one get within a foot of my underground (subway) ticket and it erased the magnetic stripe so the ticket wouldn't work any more.

The Background

Mr. Takahashi has some impressive credentials. He worked for Sony for several years and was involved with the development of their Trinitron, the Betamax, and the Walkman. This guy seemed unlikely to be a hoaxer. Further, in addition to inventing the super-powered magnets used in his motor, he'd also invented a capacitor dielectric that is amazing.

The magnet came from Takahashi's work in developing high density magnetic material for videotapes. It's made of needle-shaped micro-magnets of yttrium, iron, manganese, X, which are glass bonded. It has a coercive force of about 15 times that of alnico.

In reading the capacitor patents I found that Takahashi had developed capacitors which are 1/20th by 1/10th of an inch and have 250 μ F capacity! That works out to about one Farad for an inch-square capacitor! Who needs batteries when we have such small sized capacitance available?

I hope one of these days to be able to get together with Takahashi and a good interpreter, so I can learn more about his dielectric, his magnets, and his motor-generator. I've seen it. I believe it. But I sure don't understand how it is possible.

Later news: the magnet motor has been issued a US patent (#5,436,518). The patent claims the input power to run the motor was 19.55 watts and the output of the generator was 62.16 watts. That's 318% output over input. So, though the system is obviously impossible, it not only seems to work, but it's been patented. And I've ridden an electric scooter powered by the motor-generator.

(Update 2000: The scooter was later shown to be a fraud, with the power to run it coming from the Takahashi capacitors. There still are no magnet-powered motors that work that I know of. Nor should there be.)

Stonehenge

On Saturday we skipped their crummy free \$18 English breakfast and went on a tour to Stonehenge. Sherry's been wanting to see the place. It was an a-a-a-l day bus trip, which included stops at Bath and Salisbury. Our tour guide talked almost incessantly over the bus' PA system, giving us in a strident Julia Child's voice details of unmemorable significance on places we were passing as we drove clear across England. Yes, we saw the rocks and took pictures. No, I didn't get any feelings, other than some leg cramps and a tired butt from sitting for hours on the bus. Don't miss a Stonehenge tour when you go to England.

In Salisbury we visited a church where they have an original copy (is that self-contradicting?) of the Magna Carta. The Magna Carta room closed at 3 pm—we got there at 5. Fortunately there was a symphony orchestra there practicing, so I got to show off my music recognition skills by identifying Richard Strauss' *Tod und Verklarung* for the other members of the tour group. Don't mess with me when it comes to classical music, okay?

Afterword (Circa 2000)

I hope you enjoy reading about the things I've discovered and my ideas on how we can make things better. I know that I have a wonderful time discovering new books and telling you about them. Also, it's my hope that UI can get you to benefit from what I've learned, particularly about health. You really need to get my *Secret Guide to Health* and use it to change your life. I'd love to have you out there with me skiing in Aspen, or scuba diving the Red Sea.

The next step is for you to help your family and friends to better health. With my book you have the key to helping anyone recover, even from the last stages of cancer or AIDS, so please appoint yourself as a healer. You need no black bag, no stethoscope, and no pills—just that long lost element: common sense.

If you enjoy my stuff I hope you'll subscribe to 73 magazine (\$25/yr in the US) so you will be able to get it hot off the presses. If you can recruit any other readers, the more paid circulation we have, the more advertising we'll attract, and the more pages I'll be able to run of my editorial essays and ham radio articles.

You might even consider getting a ham ticket. It's easy now that the FCC has almost totally done away with the Morse Code barrier. We've got kids four years old getting licenses. As a ham, and without a lot of expense, I guarantee you'll never be lonely again. Flip the switch and you'll have company, local or in some place like Borneo or Nepal.

Now, if you haven't already, you need to get the reprints of my non-ham radio oriented editorial essays for 1997, 1998, and 1999.